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EL609827121US  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: John J. Gabrick  
Cassius A. Elston, Jr.

Examiner:

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filing Date:

Attorney Docket No.:

MINMAT.P03

Title of Invention: System for Automating and Managing an Enterprise IP Environment

Seattle, Washington 98109  
November 3, 2000

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of John J. Gabrick and Cassius A. Elston, Jr. entitled:

System for Automating and Managing an Enterprise IP Environment

2. Papers enclosed which are required for filing date under 37 CFR 1.53(b):  
18 Pages of specification  
1 Pages of claims  
1 Page of Abstract  
38 pages of drawings (Figs. 1a - 17b)
3. Declaration/Power of Attorney and Small Entity Statements are enclosed at this time.
4. The inventorship for all the claims in this application is the same.
5. The application is in English and no translation is required.
6. The filing fee is enclosed at this time by our check for \$355.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE (37 C.F.R. § 1.10)

I hereby certify that this correspondence, together with all papers and fees listed as attached or enclosed, are being deposited on the date indicated herein with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service Express Mail #EL609827121US with sufficient postage, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D C 20231.



November 3, 2000

Patrick Dwyer

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Applicant(s): John J. Gabrick  
Cassius A. Elston, Jr.

Examiner:

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Filing Date:

Title of Invention: System for Automating and Managing an Enterprise  
IP Environment

Seattle, Washington 98109  
October 17, 2000

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(c)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office under 35 USC § 41(a) and (b) with regard to the invention entitled

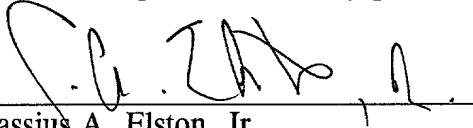
System for Automating and Managing an Enterprise IP Environment

the specification of which is filed herewith by United States Post Office Express Mail #EL609827121US.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

  
Cassius A. Elston, Jr.

Date 10-18-2000

EL609827121US  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): John J. Gabrick  
Cassius A. Elston, Jr.

Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.:

Attorney Docket No.: MINMAT.P03

Filing Date:

Title of Invention: System for Automating and Managing an Enterprise  
IP Environment

Seattle, Washington 98109  
October 18, 2000

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27(c)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

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John J. Gabrick

Date 10-18-2000

Address all future communications to:

PATRICK M. DWYER  
MINDMATTERS TECHNOLOGIES, INC.  
C/O 1818 WESTLAKE AVENUE N, SUITE 114  
SEATTLE, WA 98109

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICK MICHAEL DWYER  
Reg. No. 32,411  
Attorney for Applicant

Tel. No. (206) 343-7074  
P03-APPL TRN

This transmittal ends with this page.

Title:                   SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATING AND MANAGING  
                          AN ENTERPRISE IP ENVIRONMENT

5                                   TECHNICAL FIELD

The invention relates to knowledge management systems; more particularly it relates to systems for automating and managing an enterprise IP environment, with global communications network capabilities.

                          BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10                   The significance of intellectual property (IP) is growing daily. More and more, corporations realize the importance of preserving and protecting these vital assets, and a select few even appreciate how to capitalize on them. However, the real underlying issue that has not been addressed, up until now, is that in today's digital enterprise there is a tremendous need for a reliable, real-time system for creating, preserving and  
15                   building value from corporate IP assets. This model must be in synch with today's digital world and enterprise environment and operate on a continuous, real time basis. It must work transparently with the way in which employees work and innovate. It must be a useful productivity tool for IP attorneys and corporate counselors. And it must safeguard and protect the most valuable assets a company owns, its intellectual  
20                   capital.

Many companies are only recently recognizing the rise in significance of IP as a core asset. However, even with heightened awareness, most continue to operate in antiquated ways, relying on "defensive mechanisms," such as legalistic paperwork and cumbersome procedures. These techniques are expensive, time-intensive, and  
25                   inadequately suited for today's digital environment, since they fail to operate in real time.

Today, very few companies use the potential of information technology to streamline processes, promote new innovation, and document and protect their assets.

Often, their employees at just about every level are undereducated and unaware of the risks of inadvertent disclosure or competitive loss—setting the stage for future disputes and often leading to litigation, or even worse, the permanent loss of valuable trade secrets.

5 Most significantly, virtually all corporations underestimate the strategic value of their IP, and therefore, fail to capitalize on the full potential of it. And even while recognizing the growing significance of IP assets, there are essentially no companies that do an effective job at providing the knowledge-connectivity™ and incentive for new innovations.

10 In today's job market, employees are more mobile than ever before. Mergers, acquisitions, and downsizing are just a few of the reasons. The result is a constantly changing workforce, and the constant creation, disclosure, and turnover of corporate intellectual property. And whereas it is perfectly legal for a highly skilled employee to leave and go to work with a competitor, taking with him or her his own skills and  
15 experience, it is not lawful to leave with proprietary company information.

These trends of higher worker mobility and the increasing value of digital assets have converged to create a tremendous opportunity for a new solution. Companies certainly want to avoid additional litigation nightmares, when even a single trade secret dispute or patent infringement suit can cost well over \$1 million in legal fees. Douglas Brotz, principle scientist at Adobe Systems, commenting on a  
20 patent infringement suit described how it had cost the company more than \$4.5 million in legal fees and expenses alone, not to mention over 3,500 hours of his time—the equivalent of two, full years of working time. Most remarkably, this was a case that Adobe *had won*, initially and on appeal. Clearly, an effective means for mitigating the  
25 risk of a costly lawsuit would be of great benefit to many leading technology companies.

For the most part, individual employees don't want or intend to break trade secret laws, steal proprietary assets or misappropriate secret files. They just want to pursue the opportunities afforded to them in the free marketplace. In many cases, the  
30 core issue, the one that becomes highly volatile, is that it is nearly impossible to discern between company IP assets and individual skills and knowledge. Coupled with the fact that companies do a very poor job of identifying their IP assets in the first place--62% of companies have no procedures for reporting information loss. This tension becomes the catalyst for another wasteful lawsuit, pitting the company against

ex-employee. The company, quite self-righteously, stakes a claim to a broad range of trade secrets; and the employee, defends by pleading that the information is in the public domain, or part of his general skills and knowledge. Just recently, in another high profile suit that illustrates this growing problem, Motorola, Inc. sued Intel for hiring away a number of its key employees. An Intel spokesperson said the action was taken solely to protect Motorola's intellectual property, which it characterized as its "lifeblood."

As a further example of the seriousness of this issue, in 1998 the American Society for Industrial Security (ASIS) reported that IP losses for U.S. companies might exceed \$250 billion annually. Furthermore, five times more companies feel the issue of intellectual property loss is increasing. With the nation's competitiveness riding on our ability to maintain technological superiority, losing trade secrets can be devastating. What makes matters worse is that most companies don't know, nor have they taken action to find out what their specific trade secrets are, and whether or not they are legally protected. This only adds to the potential of a future lawsuit, since only a lengthy hearing of the facts can ultimately determine the "right and wrong."

Slow, expensive and outmoded legal precautions, and time-consuming audits are not the answer in this day and age of rapid product development. To keep their competitive edge, and to promote innovation and capitalize on knowledge assets, there is a need for a new solution—an innovative way of managing IP property.

In the past, intellectual property was not as pressing an issue as it has now become. The connection between an idea and the creation of wealth was less direct, and the road from the one to the other was traveled at a more leisurely pace. By contrast, in today's information-intensive economy, that connection is immediate and intense. Knowledge is now the driving force behind innovation and the creation of new wealth.

Within many of today's companies, innovation fuels high market caps, not tangible assets as in the past. The trends of higher worker mobility and widespread litigation, coupled with the increasing value of digital assets have converged to create a tremendous opportunity for a new solution.

Need for an Innovation Management System

The preponderance of adjectives such as "monitoring," "protection," "litigation," and "security" immediately conjures up images of "Big Brother." And while proper oversight cannot and should not be ignored, this functionality in and of itself fails to

address an even more important issue: How effectively do companies promote innovation? After all, if you accept the fact that IP is becoming more and more critical, then shouldn't companies treat it like their corporate lives depend upon it?

Most companies do very little to tap into the vast resources of knowledge that exist inside their own organizations. One Fortune 100 Company offers a \$100 dinner-for-two award for new ideas submitted by email to the corporate counselor. That's not much of an incentive, when you consider the other options available to today's employees, especially those with an entrepreneurial drive, and the ready supply of venture capital that exists.

Many of these companies rely on a perceived underlying expectation that their employees will automatically produce new innovations, as if obligated merely by the fact that they receive a paycheck and benefits. And most companies employ legal covenants that dictate the assignment of new ideas to the company, if developed on company time, with company resources, or which relate to the company's business. That mindset may have worked a generation ago, but it doesn't meet today's needs, or work for today's dynamic job market. After all, who gets to decide where one idea starts and ends? Who owns an idea that may not have been reduced to practice by the employee while he worked for the company? Ownership issues can destroy the potential of a new concept before it gets off the blocks.

It just does not appear that legal pressure is the best way to promote the creation of new ideas. Nor does it appear that employees, particularly the most savvy ones, will naively turn over their best and brightest ideas without some reasonable incentive or recognition, especially as they become more aware of the potential value. Considering that the ideas that gave birth to over 70% of the country's 100 fastest growing companies came from previous employment, it is easy to appreciate the significance of this issue. Today, most companies fail to recognize this, and consequently, they wonder why some of their best talent leaves to pursue other opportunities—including business ideas that they originated while working for their previous employer.

A recent survey published in the Harvard Business Review reported that "71% of entrepreneurs responsible for starting the country's 100 fastest growing companies developed their ideas through their former employment—either by recognizing an opportunity that the former employer didn't appreciate or even know about, or by improving upon some aspect of the company's products or services."



Overall, the existing corporate infrastructure and antiquated operating methods are poorly designed to deal with today's climate. In this fiercely competitive world just providing a job doesn't do nearly enough to promote innovation—the ultimate goal for progressive companies. What is needed is an Innovation Management System.

#### Existing Technology in the Knowledge Management Field

The Knowledge Management industry is quickly consuming the myriad fragmented and disparate niche industries that have evolved over the past two decades, including document management, search and retrieval, repositories, object technology, workflow, and most recently the intranet. According to Delphi Consulting Group, buying trends for IT will revolve around this central theme for the next decade.

The most significant aspect of this industry is the growing awareness of the increasing amount of useless data--in other words, no information--in a typical company. Strategically, companies are realizing that knowledge is the key driving force in the next decade, and systems which help manage documents, search, and aid collaboration are desperately needed. In a recent survey, nearly half (43%) of the survey population regarded knowledge management as an opportunity to add value to information inside and outside the organization. But nearly as many respondents (37%) viewed knowledge management in a very different light - as a "major new strategic initiative for staying competitive." Overall, 80% view knowledge management as providing an important contribution to business practice, and 46% of that group views knowledge management as strategic. This same group was asked the primary repositories of corporate knowledge and the biggest obstacles to creating knowledge-based organizations; the results are shown in the charts in Figure 1.

The data however clearly show that while employees are the primary sources of information in the company, all of the current solutions have focused on the remaining items: paper documents, electronic documents, and databases.

The data also reveals that the biggest obstacle is culture. The current business climate simply does not address the needs and wants of the typical knowledge "gold-collar" worker. These employees typically don't trust the "system." Highly skilled workers know they can leave the corporate environment and get better returns, higher salaries, stock options, and greater opportunities than by simply handing over important innovations. Employees are even heard to say "why should I give ABC company my ideas, I'm going to start my own company."

Accounting and valuation begin with documentation. A company with an expensive piece of capital equipment is sure to be aware of it. But most companies have valuable intellectual capital that they do not fully recognize. Many technology companies, for example, with dozens, hundreds or thousands of patents do not have a coherent catalogue of their patents, let alone an analysis of how their patents might be useful and how they might be exploited for economic and competitive gain.

These trends don't just apply to a limited number of high technology companies. Even companies not directly involved in high tech must realize that a substantial portion of their overall assets relate to intellectual property or capital. For instance, a small manufacturer may possess unique mechanical know-how, process knowledge, or techniques that create competitive space. Service companies use proprietary calculations and customer lists to their advantage. The implications of managing IP reach just about every industry classification and category.

The following needs can be identified among companies that produce IP. They need to organize intellectual property so that it can be quickly retrieved, filtered, and sorted by multiple criteria; they need to create an environment conducive to innovation by inspiring IP creation, sharing IP across the corporation, and promoting the intellectual output of individuals within the firm; they need to increase the value of corporate IP assets; they need to slow employee turnover and keep key employees from moving outside the company to start new enterprises; they need to communicate to employees, joint venture partners, and others that it is serious about protecting its IP, and want to be sure that these same people have acknowledged this; and they need efficient and centralized access to disparate IP-related information, such as legal contracts, signed documents, IP, and usage patterns for making decisions about departing personnel, potential patent infringement, or partnership negotiations.

A brief look at the trade secret laws in the context of a buyer of IP assets provides further illustration of the need for an Innovation Management System. Today, there is no effective way for companies to accomplish this level of analysis, cost-effectively and efficiently.

Previous attempts to meet customer needs  
Patent/IP Software

This category focuses on IP products. In general, the products are complex, patent-centric databases that best serve companies with large and extensive patent and trademark portfolios, and who are very serious about the strategic management

of their patents. Many of the systems also include other software modules such as PTO filing, law case management, docket generation, and billing. They either target corporations, law firms, or patent practitioners. This niche has been fairly small, so most companies range in size from 60 to about 250 employees and have deployed in the neighborhood of 100's of customers. Prices range from \$5,000 to \$30,000 not including customization or installation. Examples in this category include Aurigin's IP Asset Management System, Computer Package's Patent and Trademark Management System, Master Data Center's PC Master, Maxim Technology's InProma, and OP Solution's PATTSY.

#### 10 ERP/Knowledge Management Software

Almost every software company in existence today can claim some share of the Knowledge Management marketplace. This category of competitors is so numerous it's difficult to find any clear distinguishing differences between them. Most of the products are "enhanced" tools such as database searching, document management, groupware, and personal web page publishing. A recent KM publication listed 36 different software groups as part of the KM marketplace, including Application Development Products, Business & Competitive Intelligence, CAD, CD-related technologies, Collaborative & Work Management, Compound Document Management Software, Data Mining, Data Warehousing, Database Management Systems, Document Conferencing, Document Design/Publishing, Document Management Software, DVD-related technologies, Electronic Commerce, Engineering Document Management Systems, ERP Systems, Forms Processing, Groupware, Image Compression, Image Manipulation, Image Processing, Imaging Application Systems, Input Capture Systems, Intellectual Asset Management, Internet/Intranet Development, Knowledge Management Software/Tools, Micrographics, Multimedia Systems Software, Networking Systems Software, OCR/ICR/OMR Barcoding, On-Demand Print Systems, Portable Document Viewing, Records Retention/Archiving, Storage Management Systems, Text Retrieval & Management Software, and Workflow.

Clearly, this list contains everything imaginable related to documents and is a highly fragmented conglomeration of companies.

## Knowledge Management Consulting

Since this is a complex concept to understand, it is a sure bet that every consulting firm that can claim any relevant expertise is involved. Arthur Andersen seems to be leading the pack in this area by performing IP audits, analyzing workflow processes, and then installing document management and groupware solutions. Most of the consulting firms are focusing on a holistic, and we believe overly broad, approach by examining all aspects of the organization's knowledge base: systems, processes, departments, and technologies. Their angle is that by correctly leveraging knowledge, a company can improve productivity, customer service, quality, speed to market, and other performance improvements. By helping organizations improve how they create, capture, share and apply the knowledge that exists within the company, they can more fully capitalize on it. Web-Based solutions

At present this category only contains one competitor, yet2.com. It appears to be focused on using the Internet as a business-to-business tool targeted at the license of IP for large corporations. Yet2.com has moved quickly to create associations with several premier companies, although the details of these relationships are unknown at this time.

## DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

A three-tiered, scalable, web-based architecture ("the system") is disclosed to dynamically and cost-effectively promote innovation, foster learning, encourage preservation, and allow the management and maximization of corporate IP assets; a solution for automating and managing the modern-day enterprise IP environment. This system works efficiently within the legal parameters of any company environment, regardless of industry, and works in cooperation with In-house Counsel. With real-time access to key information, IP Counsel can focus on higher level, strategic issues, and not mundane documentation tasks.

A reliable, real-time system for creating, preserving and building value from corporate IP assets is disclosed. The system is in synch with today's digital world and enterprise environment and operates on a continuous, real time basis. It works transparently with the way in which employees work and innovate, it is a useful productivity tool for IP attorneys and corporate counselors, and it safeguards and protects the most valuable assets a company owns, its intellectual capital. It uses the potential of information technology to streamline processes, promote new innovation,

and document and protect a company's assets. It does a very effective job of providing the Knowledge-connectivity™ and incentive for new innovations.

The system meets all of the needs identified above. Using the system, companies can organize intellectual property so that it can be quickly retrieved, filtered, and sorted by multiple criteria; create an environment conducive to innovation by inspiring IP creation, sharing IP across the corporation, and promoting the intellectual output of individuals within the firm; increase the value of corporate IP assets; slow employee turnover and motivate key employees from moving outside the company to start new enterprises; communicate to employees, joint venture partners, and others that they are serious about protecting their IP, with assurance that these same people have acknowledged this serious view; and achieve efficient and centralized access to disparate IP-related information, such as legal contracts, signed documents, IP, and usage patterns for making decisions about departing personnel, potential patent infringement, or partnership negotiations. With the system companies can accomplish a cost effective and efficient level of analysis as to their trade secrets or any other IP assets.

The System also delivers three key benefits: Value Creation, Awareness, and Accountability.

#### Value Creation

One of the goals of the system is to inspire and promote new innovation within corporations. We don't believe that the innovation process is optimized for either companies or employees. Our systems help to foster an environment where creativity is recognized and rewarded in direct alignment with the goals of the company. A company that recognizes the contributions of its employees will certainly create a more stable employment environment—and attract talented people—sharpen its competitive edge, and ultimately become more successful. The system employs system-level tools that inspire the creation and sharing of new ideas and knowledge, which ultimately contributes to the increased valuation of any company.

#### Awareness

By making employees more aware and sensitive to the treatment of proprietary information, companies will be better protected from the risk of detrimental loss. Most employers do not realize that the two greatest risks to IP are employees stealing secrets or divulging secrets at a future job. Employees need to recognize the significance of a company's IP assets and understand their responsibility for

preserving them. Even a single unprotected disclosure can mean the permanent loss of a valuable trade secret. The system increases the threshold of awareness in a company's working environment, and at the same time demonstrates the company's proactive concern for safeguarding its valuable assets.

5     Accountability

Among all the assets that a business owns, its IP may be the most important and valuable. To substantiate this, the Brookings Institution in Washington surveyed U.S. manufacturers in 1982 and determined that physical assets such as factories, property, and equipment made up 62% of the companies' total market value, with the rest of the value represented by proprietary knowledge. Ten years later, the researchers determined that physical assets accounted for only 38%, with the remainder consisting of the firms' intangible knowledge assets.

Xerox actually invented the Windows concept of computer software perhaps two decades ago, long before Apple and Microsoft locked in their currently well-known legal dispute. But for all of its size and resources, Xerox failed to seek a patent and never gained a foothold in the market Apple eventually dominated.

A sustainable competitive advantage depends on how effectively a company can manage, protect and exploit IP—corporate survival depends on it. The last thing that a company needs is for lax oversight to put these assets at risk. Corporate leaders have a baseline responsibility to preserve corporate assets and work to capitalize on them. The System provides the information that a company needs to ensure that it is responsibly doing its very best to preserve assets, answering such questions as, "What specific trade secrets exist in the business today? Are they being properly and consistently maintained? Who has direct access to them?"

25     User/System Benefits

The table below highlights departments and individuals within the typical corporate environment who will benefit from using the System. For each example, the user's needs and the ultimate system benefits are shown.

	Corporate Player	IP Needs	System Benefit
5	Marketing	Needs to be able to determine competitive strengths and weaknesses, new areas of market growth.	The System automatically summarizes company innovations. The System performs detailed searches on the Internet to find competing or encroaching ideas; reports are available which list potential competitive strengths or weaknesses. These searches are performed automatically and routinely using intelligent agents, giving market analysts a jump-start on which areas to investigate. Graphic presentations and detailed reporting of the number of innovations per month, year, or quarter give senior managers a firm understanding of their level of innovation. Further stratification of the data by department or job function can help develop future strategic direction. Summary reports display access to protected information by class, type, date, user, etc. Management can quickly assess the level of protection, and if needed, can globally change security levels to reflect changing environments.
	Executive Management	Needs to get an accurate picture of the level of innovation in the company. Are employees building corporate value? Are we recognizing our key contributors?  Are we properly protecting and preserving our assets?	Innovation Management System™ allows the user to "certify" the idea with immediate supervisor, corporate IP, and posting for company-wide viewing on the corporate intranet.
	Tech Employee	Wants recognition for new ideas and innovations	The system creates an instant snapshot of the current state of all IP in the company. Its like getting an instantaneous IP audit at the touch of a button.
	Corporate IP	Has to have a "handle" on the specific IP being created—owns responsibility for oversight. What is being created, what is its value, who is creating it, what means of protection should be employed?	By allowing instant access to the usage pattern for any individual who has viewed corporate secrets, HR can quickly generate and show departing employees a listing of all confidential materials accessed and printed. Furthermore, HR can quickly print out scanned images of the departing employee's signed confidentiality agreements, non-disclosure statements, and policy acknowledgements.
	Human Resources	Inform departing employees that they have an on-going obligation to keep corporate trade secrets and intellectual property confidential.	

Human Resources	Provide more meaningful data to the employee review process	In addition to all of the usual employee review data, HR can query the System and determine all of the ideas that an individual has submitted over the past year. How can you measure the productivity of a "business development manager" without it?
Finance	What is the value of the company's goodwill? Needs to try to determine the costs of a new product launch, the total corporate value of IP or trade secrets.	Because idea submitters enter hours spent, along with other resources that contributed to the innovation, assets can be assigned tangible values and tracked on the company's balance sheet.

The System streamlines the process of creating, preserving and protecting proprietary assets. The System identifies, classifies, compiles, tracks and routes real-time data automatically on a continuous basis. It provides instant access to stored database information, such as trade secret archives, patent filings, computed valuations, user information and a variety of detailed reports. A client has instant access to their latest innovations and proprietary materials, and constant supervision over them. They know precisely the status of their property, and can quickly view summary reports and valuation data. This information is extremely beneficial in linking IP to the company's strategic objectives. See Figure 2.

The System is highly configurable and creates a wide range of user-selectable classifications of assets, allowing the system to be customized in alignment with individual business needs. For example, a software development company can selectively designate individual network folders as "CLASS 1" Trade Secrets. A number of parameters can be associated with this CLASS 1 status or mode. In this scenario, CLASS 1 provides the ultimate level of protection. Every access to these trade secrets will be monitored and logged by the System. If necessary, and depending on the protective features enabled, every user action such as viewing, printing, copying, and modifying can be transparently logged and sent to the main Server. See Figure 5.

You instantly know who has accessed your key IP files, and who has downloaded them, viewed or copied them. This level of data acquisition can be invaluable in the case of employee ownership disputes, determining level of disclosure, or commercial licensing negotiations. And even more importantly, all of this data is essential to proving that your company took the necessary preventative precautions to protect the secrecy of your trade secrets—invaluable in the face of future litigation.



## Innovation Management System

As stated earlier, the existing corporate infrastructure and antiquated operating methods are poorly designed to deal with today's climate. The Innovation Management System™ is needed.

5 An Innovation Management System (IMS) is disclosed. This preferably web-based GUI encourages innovation, providing valuable benefits to both employees and employers. It allows employees to enter their intellectual creations (documents, ideas, schematics, etc.) and receive an immediate, time/date certification. In many instances, one of the greatest reservations employees have against providing ideas to upper  
10 management or other departments is the lack of control, authorship, and credit they associate with typical corporate environments. At one time or another, we have all been victims of intellectual theft—perhaps a design sketch given to your boss concerning a product improvement that appears months later in a corporate document without your name on it. In addition to certification and registration, the system can  
15 provide automatic e-mail notifications to an immediate supervisor and the corporate IP department (all configurable), as well as entry and logging into the company-wide recognition database. Others in your company, with appropriate privilege levels, can search (by key words, project descriptions, PTO classifications, author, date, etc.) and instantly access archived innovations, increasing the level of inter-company  
20 collaboration. The company can create more effective incentives and “innovation awards” tightly coupled to strategic goals.

Users of the IMS can link to more details on each submission, email comments and suggestions directly to the author (for improved collaboration and knowledge management), or even submit their own improvements as a new or supplemental  
25 innovation. See Figure 13.

The IMS database becomes an efficient tool for HR departments, and can be used for evaluating employee performance, measuring overall corporate innovation levels, and identifying qualified and motivated employees to join a special R&D team.

The Corporate Legal Department will benefit because the IMS provides  
30 extensive documentation in a wide-range of beneficial areas. For instance, IP Counsel can monitor for new patentable ideas in real time, since they are directly linked into the system. This efficiency can reduce the time necessary to prepare and prosecute new patents. It also frees up Patent Attorneys to higher-level activities, instead of mundane data collection work. The IMS will enable attorneys to provide improved

oversight for new trade secrets before they are lost through inadvertent disclosure. The system archives the documentation trail from the outset, invaluable for assignment issues and establishing firm priority dates.

#### IMS Web Site

5           The IMS also provides an interface to the external Internet (optional and configurable). Ideas and submissions can be published and linked to an external (*i.e.* MindMatters.com) web site. The site serves as an innovation access link to companies all over the world. It is possible for interested buyers and sellers to initiate exploratory communications via embedded links, as well as conduct negotiations on  
10       available licensable technologies. There is an appropriate legal framework to streamline the exchange of information for the site, assuming that at a certain level, the materials may contain proprietary information.

          The site also provides an optimum way for companies to initially view “unsolicited ideas” without the threat of legal reprisal or the burden of lengthy,  
15       internal approval processes. Today, many companies are extremely cautious about looking at unsolicited ideas, even potentially valuable ones, because of the potential threat of future litigation. There have been a multitude of cases in recent years involving the purported misappropriation of inventions and ideas resulting from even casual discussions. In response, many companies have established cumbersome,  
20       paper-intensive procedures to deal with unsolicited ideas. Some have prohibited them altogether. Needless to say, this constricts the flow of innovation. The site solves this problem as well by building in a protective legal barrier and managing the information exchange. The site acts as a safe and efficient conduit between the parties.

          The IMS identifies innovations by key words, categories, PTO Classifications,  
25       dates, industries (SIC Codes), and identification/tracking numbers. Interested parties search the web site for innovations applicable to their own businesses or use “search agents” which automatically notify them if something meets their criteria. If they find ideas that merit further investigation, clicking on an e-mail link automatically connects them to the author or representative. By aggregating innovations at the web  
30       site, we are actively promoting innovation and knowledge sharing on a broader scale, while simultaneously building a meaningful intellectual property resource. This site becomes the first link in establishing meaningful relationships for future licensing and royalty agreements. See Figure 3.

A nominal fee is charged for creating the direct link between subscribers and new ideas. When a subscriber chooses to contact the source of the innovation, i.e., by email, a different small fee will be charged. This fee may be negligible in the early stages, in an attempt to drive usage and minimize nuisance requests (such as \$0.33).

- 5 A membership subscription is also contemplated. Other interaction, including submitting ideas, searching for ideas, or configuring "search agents" are free of charge.

#### Simple Installation

- 10 Today's MIS manager has less time than ever to fiddle with finicky programs or configure endless mazes of menus. The system is designed to plug quickly into the network and instantly begin collecting information in its basic configuration. The system simply needs to have an IP (xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx Internet Protocol) address for the network, and a physical connection to the network. IT managers can remotely configure the system via a web interface, and independent systems can be hierarchically managed, along with reporting, back to a central monitor.
- 15 Communication takes places in encrypted channels. Installation of web components is even simpler as the applications/date are easily installed into an existing web server.

- 20 The system is a scalable, modular system that can be implemented incrementally over time. Network solutions are implemented and designed around standard Microsoft DNA components.

#### Improvements over Existing Knowledge Management Technology

- 25 An important benchmark industry to compare disclosed products and services with is the field of Knowledge Management. As stated above, there is growing awareness of the increasing amount of useless data--in other words, no information--in a typical company.

- 30 Increasing the value of corporate information is important; however, rather than just designing tools to plod through piles of data, the system is an accounting framework that values (using legal standards as a model), helps protect, and most importantly creates information. But where the Knowledge Management industry has focused on only paper documents, electronic documents, and databases, not employees. The system focuses on all four elements, realizing that employees are the most critical, through the Innovation Management System (IMS). IMS makes itself the employee's "best friend," as this is the key starting point in the innovation process. If employees trust and use the IMS to help them accomplish their personal goals (while

simultaneously satisfying the corporate goals), then the flow of new innovations will be substantial.

The data also reveals that the biggest obstacle is culture. The system addresses the needs and wants of the typical knowledge "gold-collar" worker. The IMS overcomes the cultural disinclination of such workers by allowing innovators to share in the glory and financial success of their ideas. The System will also set the bar for what is required for companies to prove that they did in fact take reasonable measures to protect their assets.

The system is designed to provide an appropriate interface to previous systems that attempt to meet customer needs, such as patent/IP software, and knowledge management software.

The disclosed system is a comprehensive, supervisory system that functions seamlessly on top of existing architectures, and which efficiently monitors and promotes innovation. Innovation is the core focus. The system is unique in that it is designed from the bottom up to be extremely easy to install and integrate with existing systems. Administrators will be able to install it incrementally in a modular fashion, as the needs and demands of the system grow over time. IP and Innovation managers will be able to progressively configure the system for customized applications, producing additional revenue streams from added licenses and services.

The disclosed system is superior to existing knowledge management consulting approaches, with or without Web enablement, at least in the critical area of IP tracking and management. The innovation content that a company provides under the disclosed system offers a much more compelling site to its users, both company users and the internet population. For example the system includes not only a web-trading interface, but also a mechanism for capturing innovation directly from the sources, transferring it through the organization, and protecting it from inadvertent loss. One of the key factors for success will be making it easy for participants in the web experience to upload information on a continuous basis. This keeps the information fresh and frees corporations from the laborious task of entering data repeatedly.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a set of charts showing corporate predilections for (a) repositories of data and (b) obstacles to creation of a fully function IP system.

Figure 2 is a schematic diagram of a trade secret monitoring aspect of the system.

Figure 3 is a schematic diagram of an Internet innovation marketing aspect of the system.

Figure 4a-d is set of screen shots showing an Explorer aspect of the IMS VB GUI, with a-c showing an earlier version and details on a system trade secret search, and with  
5 d showing a corresponding but updated Web version of a File Cabinet search page.

Figure 5a-b is a set of screen shots showing a Classes/Users aspect of the IMS VB GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b showing a corresponding but updated Web version of a Human Resource search page.

Figure 6 is a screen shot showing a Data Analysis aspect of the IMS VB GUI.

10 Figure 7a-c is a set of screen shots showing a innovation database Search Results aspect of the IMS VB GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b-c showing corresponding but updated Web versions of a Database Search page and a NDA Tracker page.

Figure 8a-b is a set of screen shots showing a Monitor aspect of the IMS VB GUI, with  
15 a showing an earlier version and with b showing corresponding but updated Web version of an alternate search results page.

Figure 9a-b is a set of screen shots showing an Innovator Home Page aspect of the IMS Web GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b showing an updated version.

Figure 10a-b is a set of screen shots showing an Innovator Submissions Page aspect  
20 of the IMS Web GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b showing an updated version.

Figure 11a-b is a set of screen shots showing an Innovator Search Results Page aspect of the IMS Web GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b showing an updated version.

25 Figure 12 is a screen shot showing an Innovator Corporate Page aspect of the IMS Web GUI.

Figure 13 is a screen shot showing an Innovator Top Innovations Page aspect of the IMS Web GUI.

Figure 14a-b is a set of screen shots showing an Innovator Database Search Results  
30 Page aspect of the IMS Web GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b showing an updated version.

Figure 15a-d is a set of screen shots showing an Innovator Management Tools aspect of the IMS Web GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b-d showing updated versions.

Figure 16a-b is a set of screen shots showing an Innovator Summary Page aspect of the IMS Web GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b showing an updated version.

Figure 17a-b is a set of screen shots showing an Innovator Details Page aspect of the IMS Web GUI, with a showing an earlier version and with b showing an updated version.

In compliance with the statute, the invention has been described in language more or less specific as to structural features. It is to be understood, however, that the invention is not limited to the specific features shown, since the means and construction shown comprise preferred forms of putting the invention into effect. The invention is, therefore, claimed in any of its forms or modifications within the legitimate and valid scope of the appended claims, appropriately interpreted in accordance with the doctrine of equivalents.

## CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A system for automatically summarizing company innovations, the system using intelligent agents to automatically perform searches on the Internet to find competing or encroaching ideas, the system generating reports which list potential competitive strengths or weaknesses.
2. A system that provides instant access to the usage pattern for any company employee who has viewed corporate secrets, whereby the company can quickly generate and show the employee a listing of all confidential materials accessed and/or printed.
3. The system of Claim 1 further comprising a query engine to determine and replot some or all of the ideas that an individual has submitted over a selected time period.
4. The system of Claim 4 further wherein employee performance, overall corporate innovation levels, and qualified and motivated employees are measured and determined in accordance with the innovations entered by employees into the system.
5. The system of Claim 1 further wherein the employee enters hours spent, along with other resources that contributed to the innovation, so that IP assets can be assigned tangible values and tracked on the company's balance sheet.
6. A system for streamlining the process of creating, preserving and protecting proprietary assets, wherein the system identifies, classifies, compiles, tracks and routes real-time data automatically on a continuous basis, and provides instant access to stored database information, such as trade secret archives, patent filings, computed valuations, user information and a variety of detailed reports, further wherein an employee has instant access to her latest innovations and proprietary materials, and constant supervision over them.
7. The system of Claim 1 further wherein employees enter their intellectual creations (documents, ideas, schematics, etc.) and receive an immediate, time/date certification therefor.
8. The system of Claim 7, further wherein the employee can link more details on each submission, and other users can email comments and suggestions directly to the author, or optionally submit their own improvements as a new or supplemental innovation.

項目	1990年	1991年	1992年	1993年	1994年	1995年	1996年	1997年	1998年	1999年	2000年	2001年	2002年	2003年	2004年	2005年	2006年	2007年	2008年	2009年	2010年	2011年	2012年	2013年	2014年	2015年	2016年	2017年	2018年	2019年	2020年	2021年	2022年	2023年	2024年	2025年	2026年	2027年	2028年	2029年	2030年	2031年	2032年	2033年	2034年	2035年	2036年	2037年	2038年	2039年	2040年	2041年	2042年	2043年	2044年	2045年	2046年	2047年	2048年	2049年	2050年	2051年	2052年	2053年	2054年	2055年	2056年	2057年	2058年	2059年	2060年	2061年	2062年	2063年	2064年	2065年	2066年	2067年	2068年	2069年	2070年	2071年	2072年	2073年	2074年	2075年	2076年	2077年	2078年	2079年	2080年	2081年	2082年	2083年	2084年	2085年	2086年	2087年	2088年	2089年	2090年	2091年	2092年	2093年	2094年	2095年	2096年	2097年	2098年	2099年	2100年																																																																		
1. 人口	1,200,000	1,250,000	1,300,000	1,350,000	1,400,000	1,450,000	1,500,000	1,550,000	1,600,000	1,650,000	1,700,000	1,750,000	1,800,000	1,850,000	1,900,000	1,950,000	2,000,000	2,050,000	2,100,000	2,150,000	2,200,000	2,250,000	2,300,000	2,350,000	2,400,000	2,450,000	2,500,000	2,550,000	2,600,000	2,650,000	2,700,000	2,750,000	2,800,000	2,850,000	2,900,000	2,950,000	3,000,000	3,050,000	3,100,000	3,150,000	3,200,000	3,250,000	3,300,000	3,350,000	3,400,000	3,450,000	3,500,000	3,550,000	3,600,000	3,650,000	3,700,000	3,750,000	3,800,000	3,850,000	3,900,000	3,950,000	4,000,000	4,050,000	4,100,000	4,150,000	4,200,000	4,250,000	4,300,000	4,350,000	4,400,000	4,450,000	4,500,000	4,550,000	4,600,000	4,650,000	4,700,000	4,750,000	4,800,000	4,850,000	4,900,000	4,950,000	5,000,000	5,050,000	5,100,000	5,150,000	5,200,000	5,250,000	5,300,000	5,350,000	5,400,000	5,450,000	5,500,000	5,550,000	5,600,000	5,650,000	5,700,000	5,750,000	5,800,000	5,850,000	5,900,000	5,950,000	6,000,000	6,050,000	6,100,000	6,150,000	6,200,000	6,250,000	6,300,000	6,350,000	6,400,000	6,450,000	6,500,000	6,550,000	6,600,000	6,650,000	6,700,000	6,750,000	6,800,000	6,850,000	6,900,000	6,950,000	7,000,000	7,050,000	7,100,000	7,150,000	7,200,000	7,250,000	7,300,000	7,350,000	7,400,000	7,450,000	7,500,000	7,550,000	7,600,000	7,650,000	7,700,000	7,750,000	7,800,000	7,850,000	7,900,000	7,950,000	8,000,000	8,050,000	8,100,000	8,150,000	8,200,000	8,250,000	8,300,000	8,350,000	8,400,000	8,450,000	8,500,000	8,550,000	8,600,000	8,650,000	8,700,000	8,750,000	8,800,000	8,850,000	8,900,000	8,950,000	9,000,000	9,050,000	9,100,000	9,150,000	9,200,000	9,250,000	9,300,000	9,350,000	9,400,000	9,450,000	9,500,000	9,550,000	9,600,000	9,650,000	9,700,000	9,750,000	9,800,000	9,850,000	9,900,000	9,950,000	10,000,000

[illegible]



## Primary Repositories

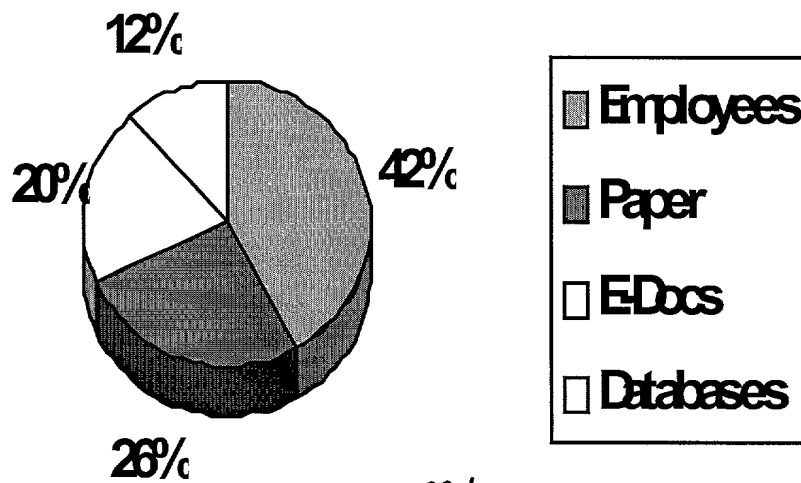


FIGURE 1a

## Obstacles to Creation

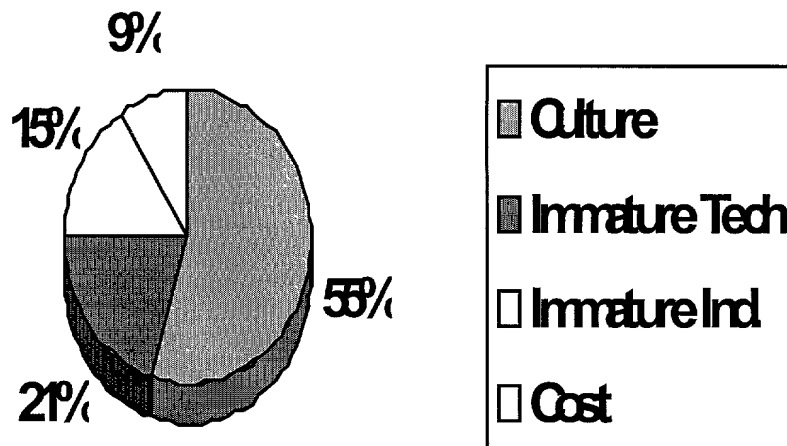


FIGURE 1b



FIGURE 2

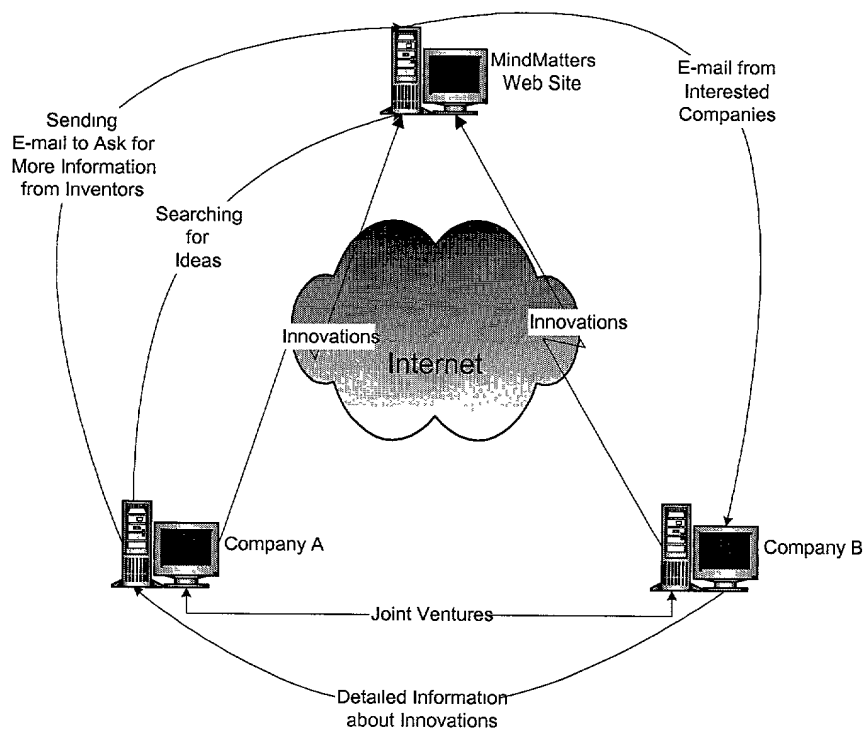


FIGURE 3

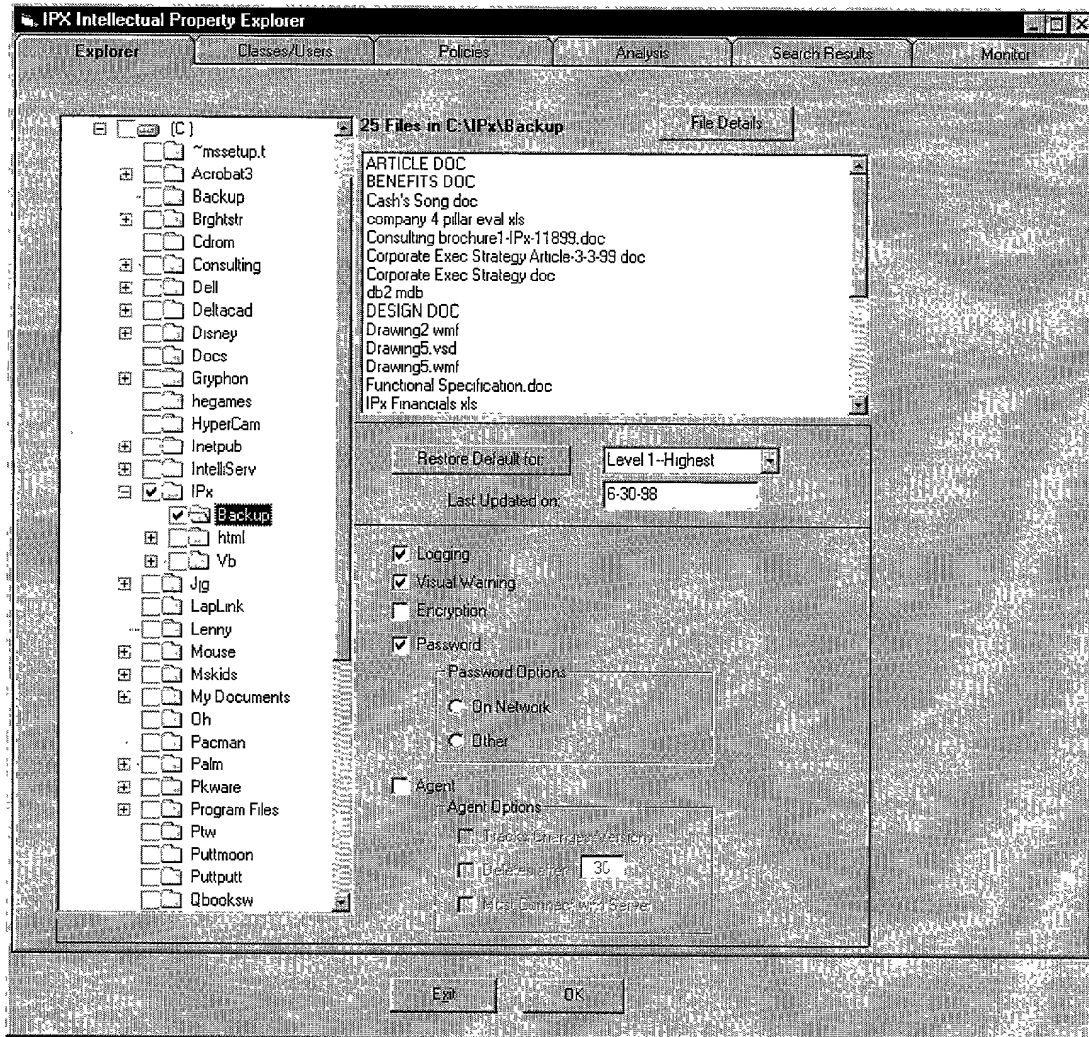


FIGURE 4a

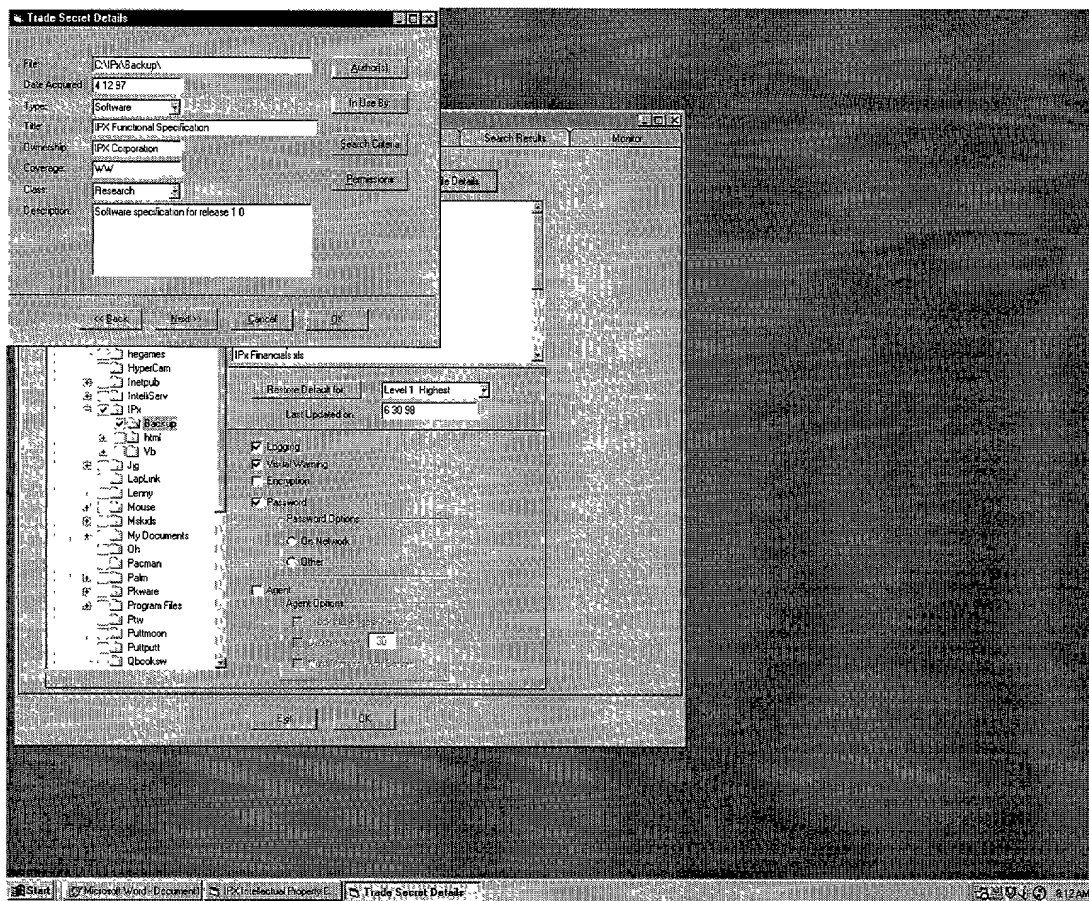


FIGURE 4b

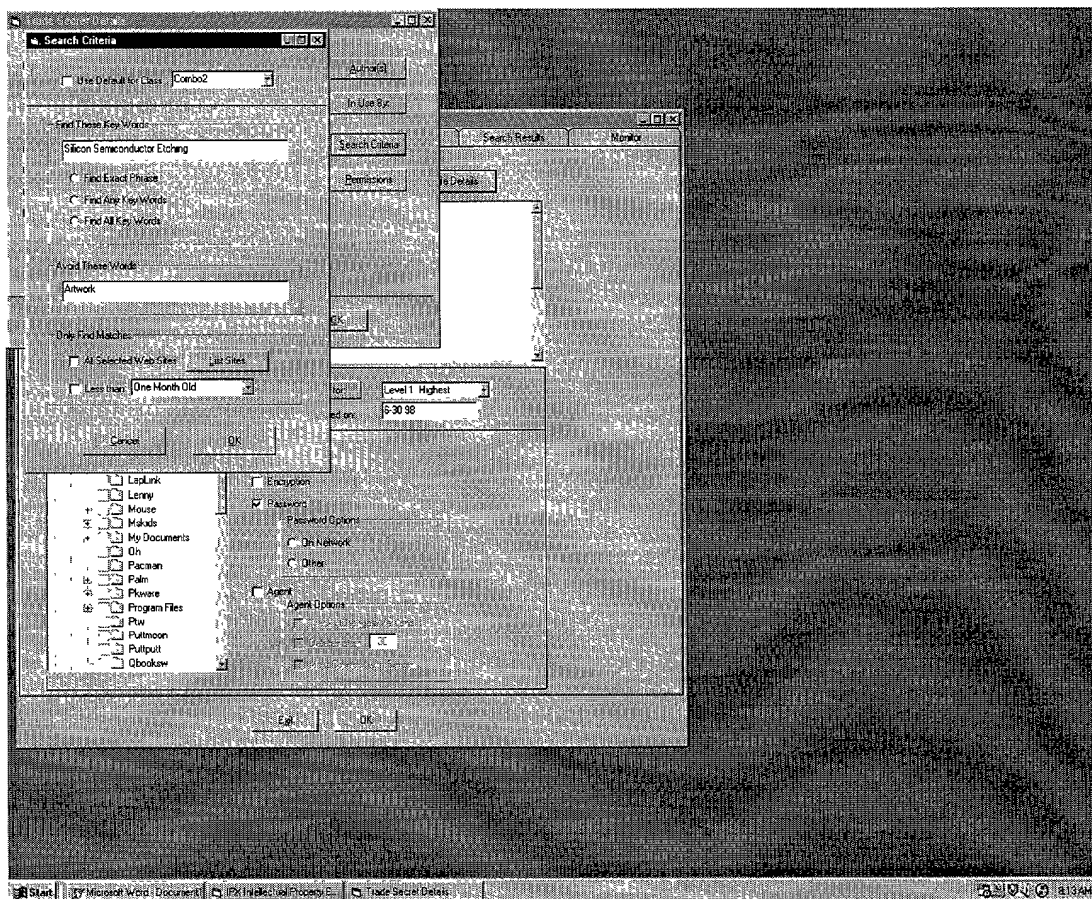


FIGURE 4c



# Innovator

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File Cabinet		File Search: <input type="text"/>		All Files   Latest		Sort By: <input type="text"/>		<input type="button" value="edit"/> <input type="button" value="X"/>	
Title	Documents	Other Authors	Status	Last Update	Search Agent	Create Date	IP Class	Protection	
Neural Network Optical Driver	C:\MMT_private	Smith, Jones, Gabrick	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	11/29/99	Yes	11/29/99	Hardware	Executive Only	
Software System For AI Internet Searching	\\Bellevue\C\ProjectX	Orlowski	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	8/2/98		8/2/98	Software	All Employees	
HTML Authoring Tools	C:\IPX\Plans\Test	N.A.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	6/30/95	Yes	6/30/95	Software	Department Only	
NE126 Product Improvements	C:\Java\NE126	N.A.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	5/28/93		5/28/93	Improvement	Department Only	
Robotic Force Feedback Sensor	\\Allegheny\DI\Robots	Elston	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	1/11/92	Yes	1/11/92	New	All Employees	
Software System For AI Internet Searching	\\Bellevue\C\ProjectX	Orlowski	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	8/2/98		8/2/98	Software	All Employees	
Neural Network Optical Driver	C:\MMT_private	Smith, Jones, Gabrick	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	11/29/99	Yes	11/29/99	Hardware	Executive Only	
HTML Authoring Tools	C:\IPX\Plans\Test	N.A.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	6/30/95	Yes, 2 Results	6/30/95	Software	Department Only	
Robotic Force Feedback Sensor	\\Allegheny\DI\Robots	Elston	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	1/11/92	Yes	1/11/92	New	All Employees	
<a href="#">Setup</a>									

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Figure 4d

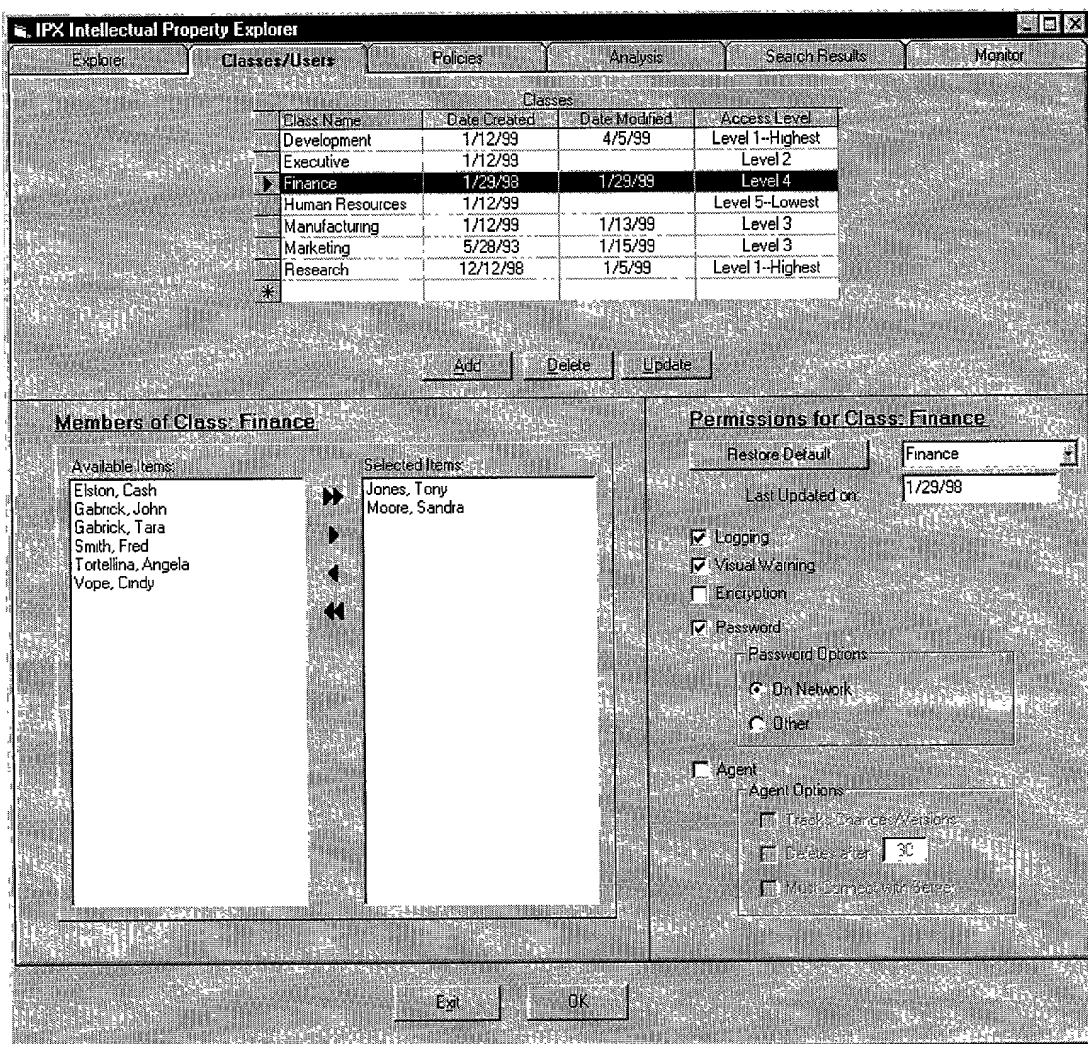
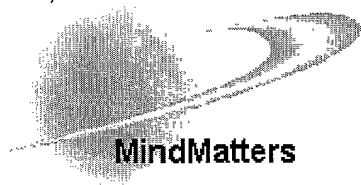


FIGURE 5a





# Innovator Human Resources

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## Smith, John

SS#	Hire Date	Title	E-Mail	Location	Dept.	ID#	Manager
123-45-6789	6-30-1995	Mgr, Development	Smith@mmt.com	Pittsburgh	5600	IA8592	Gerstner

### Innovations

#### Title

[Neural Network Optical Driver](#)  
[Software System For AI Internet Searching](#)  
[HTML Authoring Tools](#)  
[NE126 Product Improvements](#)  
[Robotic Force Feedback Sensor](#)

Status	Date
<input type="radio"/>	3-2-00
<input type="radio"/>	1-3-98
<input type="radio"/>	8-19-96
<input type="radio"/>	6-12-96
<input type="radio"/>	11-5-95

### Exit Interview Checklist

Review Confidentiality Procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>
Remind of Continuing Obligations	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Employment, Competitive Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Review Proprietary Access Log	<input type="checkbox"/>
Compliance Sign-off	<input type="checkbox"/> FormR4.99

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[Alpha 470](#) [JR-574](#) [XR 3147](#) [XZ-99383](#) [JG-873497](#)  
[Beta 391](#) [Beta 646](#) [Beta 989](#) [Beta 877](#)  
[X15](#)

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1. Submitted New Innovation: Optical Enabler	2/1/99
2. Proprietary Materials Download	3/15/99
3. Class 1 Trade Secret Accessed	3/17/99
4. Proprietary Materials Download	4/1/99
5. File Transfer via email	4/15/99
6. File Transfer via email	5/1/99
7. Trade Secret Warning Alert	6/15/99
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Figure 5b

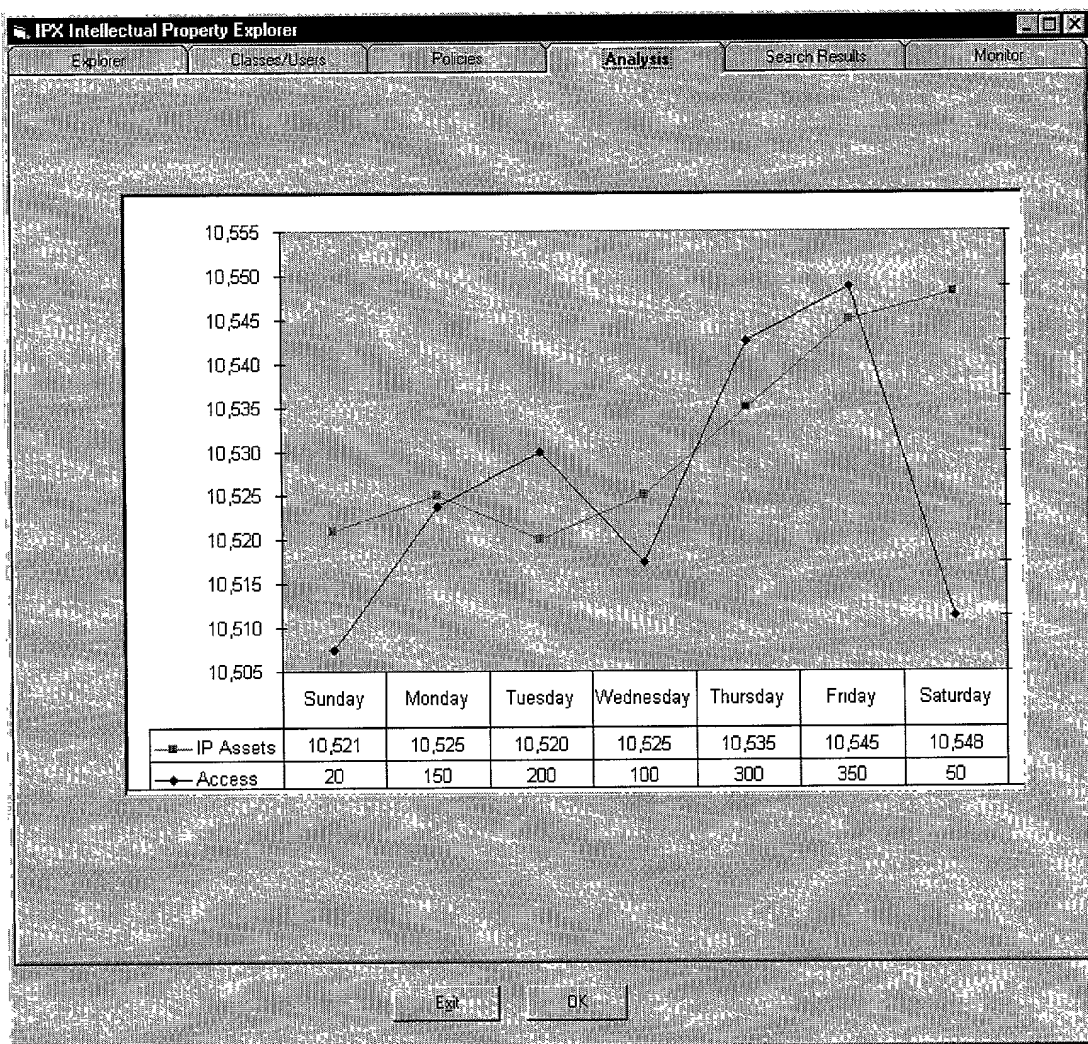


FIGURE 6

**IPX Intellectual Property Explorer**

Explorer   Classes/Users   Policies   Analysis   **Search Results**   Monitor

Search Results for IP Asset:

**Find These Key Words**

☒ Find Exact Phrase  
☐ Find Any Key Words  
☐ Find All Key Words

**Avoid These Words**

**Only Find Matches**

☐ At Selected Web Sites

Site	Address	IP Asset	Date Found
Find-A-Site - The Easy Way to Find Businesses on t	http://www.findaste.com/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/25/99
"Fillmore, Belliston & Israelsen - A Professional	http://www.fillmorelaw.com/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/25/99
Four Corners Language Institute Online	http://fcli.bc.ca/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/24/99
Kador & Partner	http://www.europeanattorney.com/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/23/99
Atout Technologies, an IP Virtual Components Provi	http://www.atout-tech.com/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/22/99
www.TheGoldenGlobes.com	http://www.thegoldenglobes.com/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/21/99
"Calahan, McCune & Willis LLP "	http://www.cmwlaw.net/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/20/99
Michell Sillar McPhee Barristers and Solicitors pr	http://www.msm.com.au/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/19/99
Consolidated Meat Group - Australia - Beef Product	http://www.meat.aust.com/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/18/99
Intellectual Property Protection - MediaRegister	http://www.mediaregister.com/intellectu	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/17/99
"FPLC IP Mail - Main Menu - intellectual property,	http://www.fplc.edu/>	c:\ipx\functional.doc	5/16/99
The basic IP index has moved	http://www.fplc.edu/tfield/order.htm>	c:\projects\sem\marketing.xls	5/25/99
The Intellectual Property Law Server	http://www.intelprolaw.com/>	c:\projects\sem\marketing.xls	5/23/99
"McCormick Paulding and Huber, LLP-Intellectual Pr	http://www.ip-lawyers.com/>	c:\projects\sem\marketing.xls	5/21/99
Oppedahl & Larson LLP Patent Law Web Server	http://www.patents.com/>	c:\projects\sem\marketing.xls	5/19/99
Franklin Pierce Law Center's Homepage	http://www.fplc.edu/>	c:\projects\sem\marketing.xls	5/17/99
Intellectual Property Programmes	http://research.haila.ac.il/~spinoza/prog	\\bellevue\fcustomers\sears.doc	5/24/99

FIGURE 7a



MindMatters



# Innovation Database Search

Key Word(s)

Search for:

Search Parameters

Results  the phrase

Results  the phrase

Figure 7b

New NDA

Search for:

Advanced Search

Search

Non-Disclosure Agreements

Search:

Sort:

Date

Filter:

Status

Attendees

Susan Smith, John Jones, Tim Orlowski

Status

Date

Organization

3-12-00

International Business Machines

6-1-99

Sun Microsystems

11-29-98

Alcoa

5-12-97

Microsoft--Operating Systems Group

1-11-92

Microsoft--Operating Systems Group

10-15-90

Procter & Gamble

8-6-89

Terabeam

4-31-89

Lucent--Telecommunications Division

Figure 7e

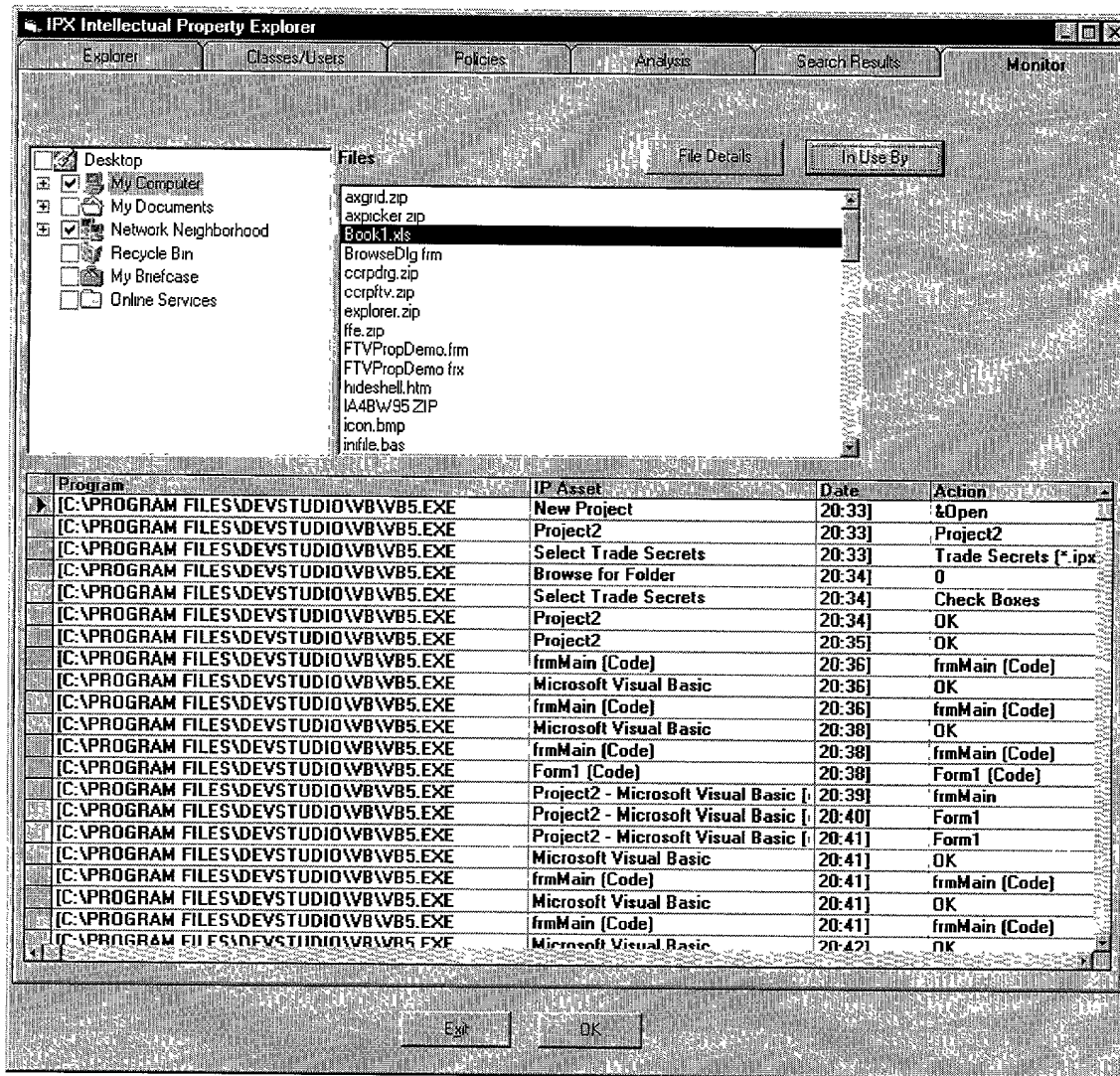


FIGURE 8a



# Innovator

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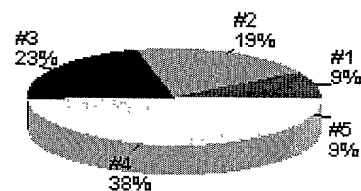
[Home Page](#) • [Edit](#) • [Help](#)

## Personal Home Page Hits

Search Term	Who	Date
1. Software Intelligence	124.34.5.113 <a href="#">View Results</a>   <a href="#">Delete</a>	1-13-00
2. Internet Searching	124.34.5.120 <a href="#">View Results</a>   <a href="#">Delete</a>	2-4-00
3. Neural Network	124.34.5.126 <a href="#">View Results</a>   <a href="#">Delete</a>	2-4-00

## File Cabinet Hits (Internal)

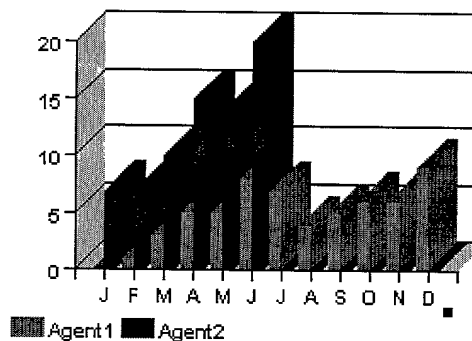
Title	Hits
1. <a href="#">Software System For AI Internet Searching</a>	0
2. <a href="#">NE126 Product Improvements</a>	1
3. <a href="#">Biometric Nanocircuit</a>	0
4. <a href="#">Nucleotide Combination for Peptides</a>	1
5. <a href="#">Browser Search Agent</a>	0



## Collaboration Agents

Title	Posted Hits
1. (Neural Network) AND (AI) OR Artificial <a href="#">View Results</a>   <a href="#">Edit</a>   <a href="#">Delete</a>	11-29-99 5
2. "Optical Drivers" <a href="#">View Results</a>   <a href="#">Edit</a>   <a href="#">Delete</a>	1-2-00 1

[Create New Agent](#)



### Tips

**View:** View runs the agent.

**Edit:** Make changes to your agent any time.

**Delete:** Permanently remove your agent.

Please send an e-mail to [webmaster@us-mindmatters.com](mailto:webmaster@us-mindmatters.com) for any questions regarding the operation of this web site. For legal questions, please contact either your department Innovation Representative or MMT Legal counsel at x5598, e-mail [info@us-mindmatters.com](mailto:info@us-mindmatters.com)

Figure 8b

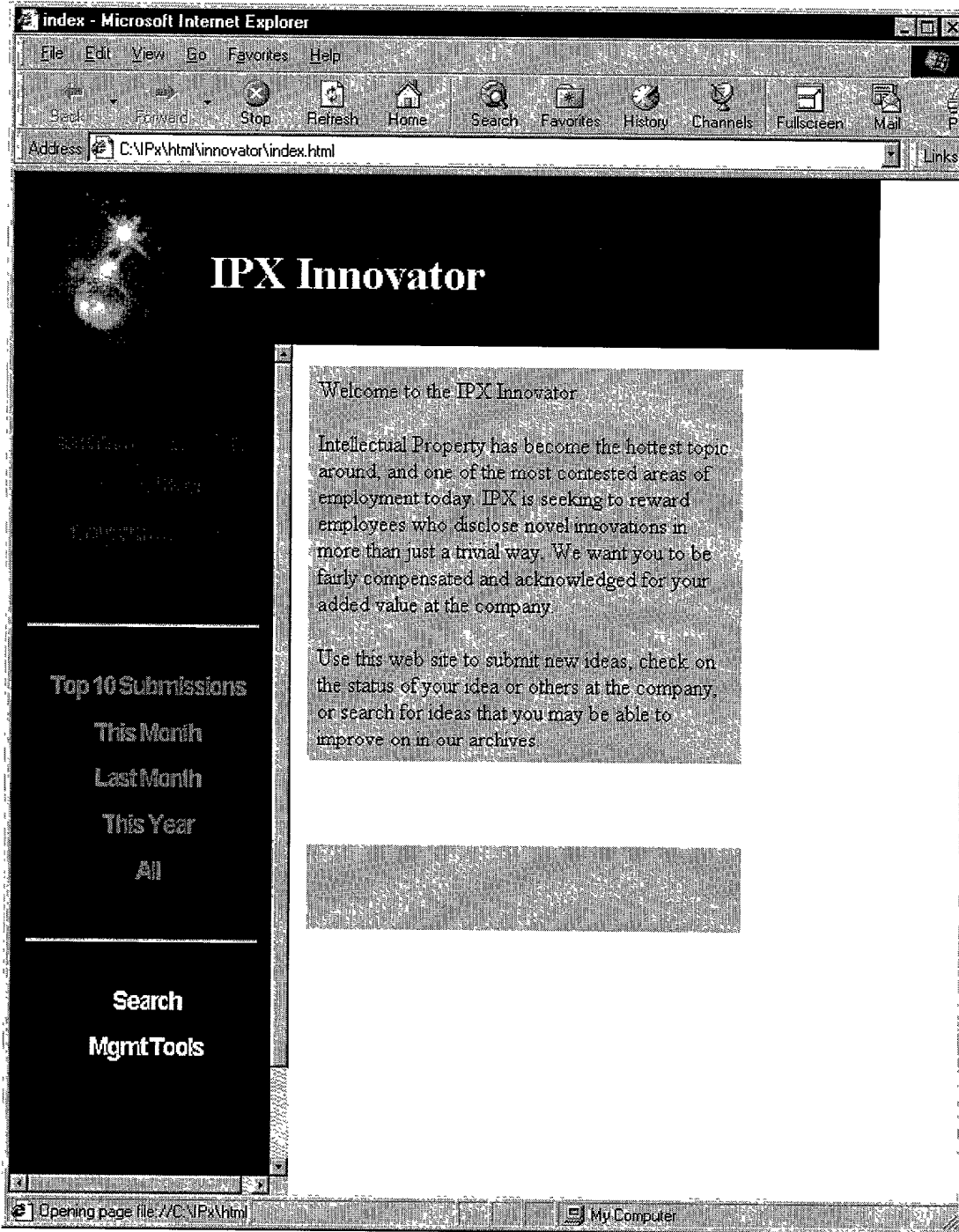


FIGURE 9a



# Innovator

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[Performance](#)  
[Marketing Leads](#)  
[NDA Tracker](#)  
[Idea Discussion](#)  
[Innovation Database](#)  
[Publish Bio](#)  
[Collaborate](#)  
[Best Practices](#)  
[Configure](#)

NEW New Product Specs!!  
 NEW Article by John Corlene, Corporate Counsel  
 NEW Innovator User Contributions

## Database Search

Search for:

[Advanced Search](#)

[Start Search](#)

## Most Active

[Date](#) [Quarterly Finalists](#) [Most Prolific](#) [Best New Departments](#) [Locations](#) [Alphabetical](#)  
[More...](#)

1. ★★ John Smith, [Neural Network Optical Driver](#)
2. ★ Tim Balushi, [Software Optimization for CNC Drives](#)
3. ★★ Martha Jones, [Robotic Force Feedback](#)
4. ★ Julie Selleck, [IP Accounting System](#)
5. ★ John Smith, [Neural Network Optical Driver](#)
6. Tim Balushi, [Software Optimization for CNC Drives](#)
7. Martha Jones, [Robotic Force Feedback](#)
8. Julie Sun, [IP Accounting System](#)
9. Carole Williams, [New Grammy Hit](#)
10. ★ Martha Jones, [E-Commerce One-Click Click System](#)

## Spotlight



NEW

**Susan Jones, Bryan Beem, and John Wayne's Voice Recognition for Embedded Systems** As consumer products get more and more complex, there is a need for an easier means of interaction with these complex machines. One way to make interaction smoother is by allowing interaction through natural language. [More...](#)

[New Analysis Request!!](#)

## File Cabinet

Search:	Sort:	Filter:	Status	Search
	Date	Neural		
3-12-00	Neural Network Optical Driver			
6-1-99	Software System For AI Internet Searching			
11-29-98	HTML Authoring Tools			
5-12-97	NE126 Product Improvements			
1-11-92	Robotic Force Feedback Sensor			
10-15-90	Biometric Nanocircuit			
8-6-89	Nucleotide Combination for Peptides			
4-31-89	Browser Search Agent			

## Collaboration Agents

Date	Title	Status
3-12-00	(Neural Network) AND (AI) OR Artificial	
	<a href="#">View Results</a>   <a href="#">Edit</a>   <a href="#">Delete</a>	
6-1-99	"Optical Drivers"	
	<a href="#">View Results</a>   <a href="#">Edit</a>   <a href="#">Delete</a>	

## Performance Ratings

[All](#) [New](#) [By Category](#) [Details](#) [By Department](#) [By Location](#) [More...](#)

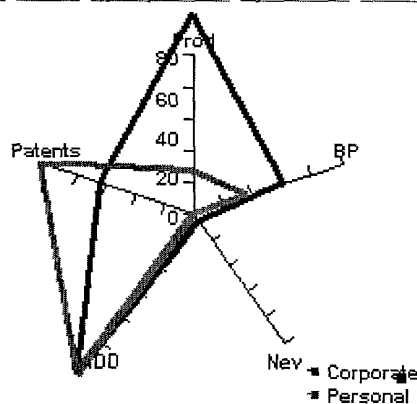


Figure 9b

**Innovation Goals**  
New Product Innovations  
Filed Patents  
Invention Disclosures  
New Business Spin-Offs  
New Best Practices

**YTD Total**  
100  
50  
1500  
5  
50

**Education Center**



**124 articles**

**What is a Trade Secret?** *Is that new java applet you're writing a company trade secret, you may be surprised to find out it is!* Cassius Jones, MMT IP Counsel

**Employee Rights** *Who Owns Your Ideas?*, Bailey, F.

**Is it a Patent?** *New focus on software patents for the company, Cassius Elston, MMT IP Counsel*

**Pepsico vs. Gatorade?** *Sometimes the law doesn't make sense. Find out what happened and be informed.* J. Gabrick, MMT IP Counsel

**Evaluation Committee Guidelines** *Review Committee, 6-22-00*

**More Articles...**

---

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Back Forward Stop Refresh Home Search Favorites History Channels Fullscreen Mail Print

Address C:\VPx\html\innovator\index.html Links

# IPX Innovator

Submit A New Innovation

Thank you for submitting a new innovation at IPX Corporation. The information that you enter will help to make our company more productive AND it will help to create a more lucrative environment for you personally. After the information has been reviewed by our IP Committee, you will receive feedback about the status of your submission. All plausible ideas will be result in a financial reward, whether the idea is used or not. If your idea has greater potential, you may be asked (or you may volunteer) to be part of a special task force which examines the idea in more detail and submits a business justification for continued investment. If selected, your idea could be worth enough to allow you to retire. Thanks for participating, and remember to view the status of your submissions on the Status web page. Thank you.

1) Name:

2) Location:

3) E-Mail:

4) Innovation Type

- ☐ New Idea
- ☐ Process Improvement
- ☐ Competitive Tactic
- ☐ Patent
- ☐ Other (Please specify):

5) Key Words Used to BRIEFLY Describe Innovation

Top 10 Submissions

This Month

Last Month

This Year

All

Search

Mgmt Tools

Done My Computer

FIGURE 10a

Submit Innovation

Explorer

- ☒ Byte-Sized Computing
- ☒ Please Register...
- ☒ Desktop

## Inventor(s) Information

Name	Location	Dept.	ID#	Manager
Contributor 1 John Gabrick	Pittsburgh	5600	1A8592	Gerstner
Contributor 2 Cash Elston	Redmond	5600	1A5623	Welch
Sponsor Tom Jones	Seattle	8700	9A7612	Smith

Lookup

## Innovation Information

Innovation Name

Innovation Type

Supporting Electronic Documents

Title

Supporting Paper Documents

Date

Generate Barcode

Type

Location

Description

This system automatically updates and adjusts to changes in ambient light. Users are able to build robotic guidance systems that adapt to any lighting scheme

Key Words

## Protection Information

Route to Corporate Counsel? ☐ yes

Potential Trade Secret? ☐ yes

Initial Protection Level

Warning Message

Encryption ☐ yes

Figure 10b

Thank you for submitting this idea.

Submit Idea

Clear all answers

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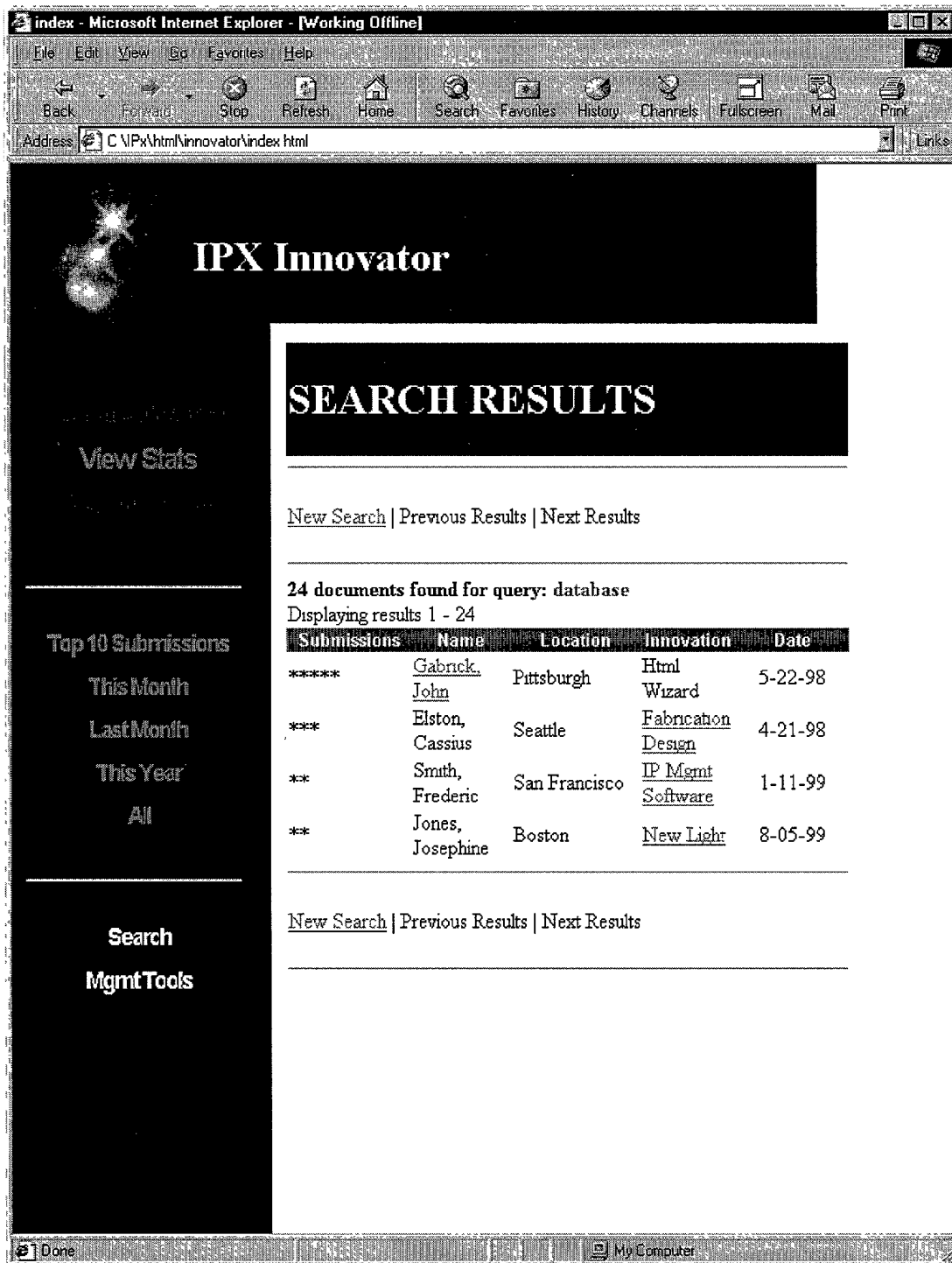





FIGURE 11a

# Search Results

Rank	Status	Information	Location	Details	Date
99%	 External	New Neural Network Optical Driver in use by Ariva's ....	<a href="http://www.ariva.com/test.html">http://www.ariva.com/test.html</a>	<u>Neural Network</u> <u>Optical Driver</u>	<u>ICS781</u> 5/25/00
98%	 Internal	Network Optical Drivers	\\bellevue\ServerA_1\C:\NOD	<u>Corbis</u> <u>John</u> 412-388- 1221	Mgr., Pvc Development <u>smith@us-</u> <u>mmt.com</u> 5/25/00
98%	 External	The Intellectual Property Site	<a href="http://www.gm.com">http://www.gm.com</a>	<u>Neural Network</u> <u>Optical Driver</u>	<u>ICS781</u> 5/25/00
98%	External	Oppedahl & Larson LLP Patent Law Web Server	<a href="http://www.patents.com">http://www.patents.com</a>	<u>Neural Network</u> <u>Optical Driver</u>	<u>ICS781</u> 5/25/00
70%	External	Franklin Pierce Law Center's Homepage	<a href="http://www.fplc.edu">http://www.fplc.edu</a>	<u>Neural Network</u> <u>Optical Driver</u>	<u>ICS781</u> 5/25/00
68%	Internal	Intellectual Property Law	\\bellevue\customers\eagle.doc	<u>Jones</u> <u>Cash</u> 412-388- 8254	Dir., Strategy <u>jones@jp-</u> <u>mmt.com</u> 5/25/00
65%	External	Intellectual Property Checklist	<a href="http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/">http://www.utsystem.edu/ogc/</a>	<u>Neural Network</u> <u>Optical Driver</u>	<u>ICS781</u> 5/25/00
65%	External	IBM Intellectual Property Network	<a href="http://www.patents.ibm.com">http://www.patents.ibm.com</a>		5/25/00
50%	External	Intellectual Property	<a href="http://www.intellectual-property.co.uk">http://www.intellectual-property.co.uk</a>		5/25/00
50%	External	Intellectual Property Valuations, Inc. Intellectual Property Valuation ...	<a href="http://valuationcorp.com">http://valuationcorp.com</a>		5/25/00

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Figure 11b

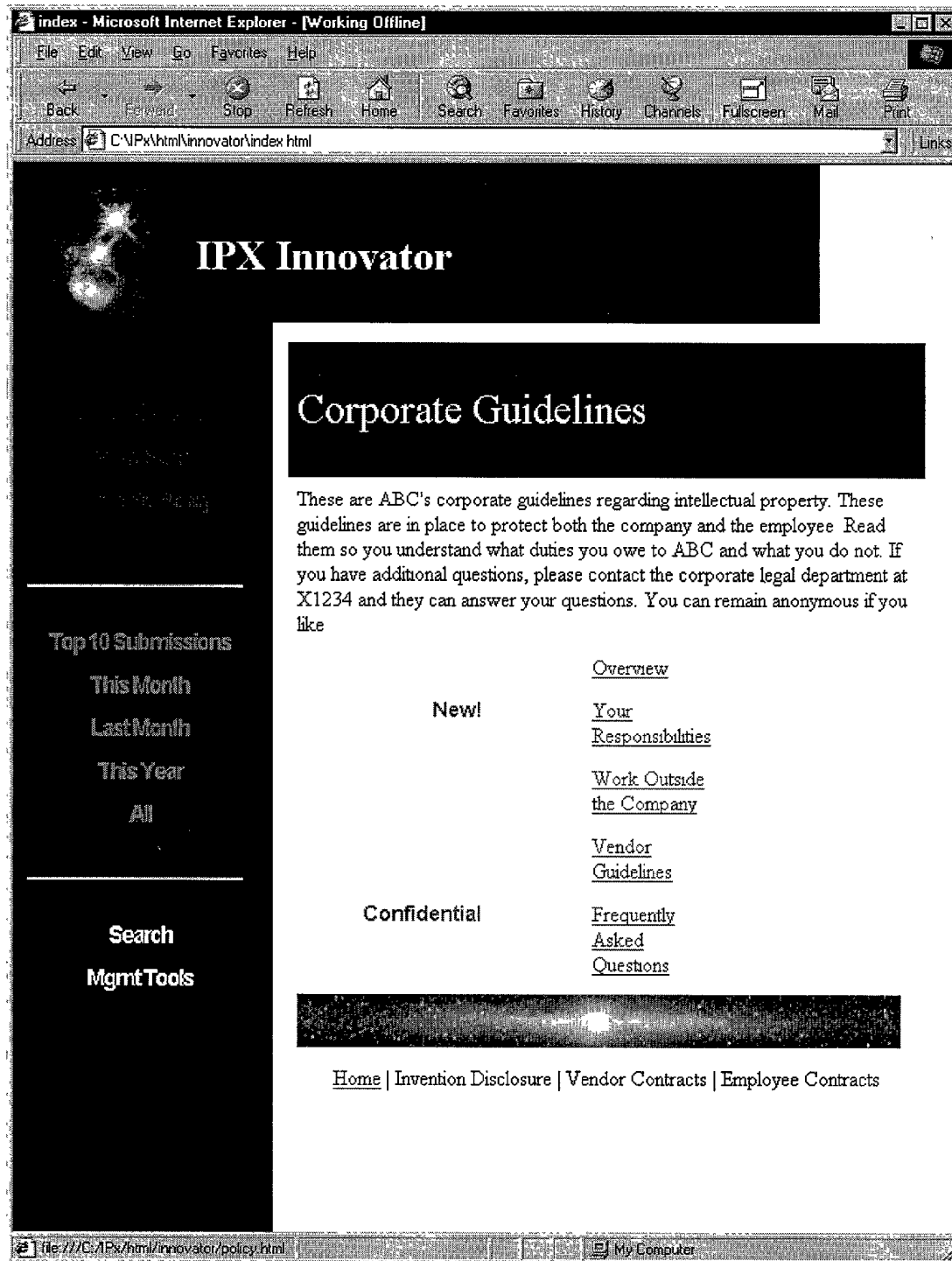


FIGURE 12



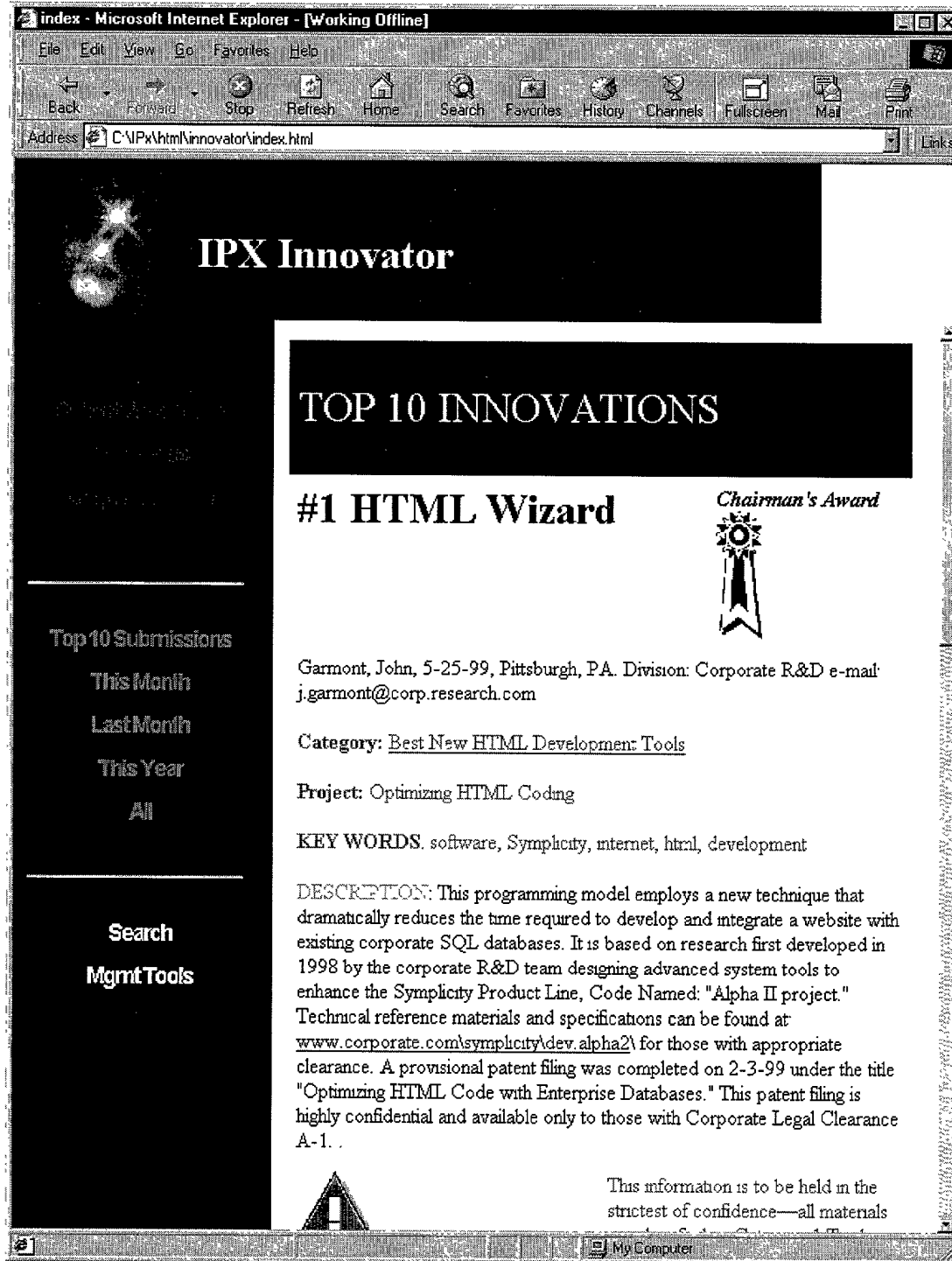


FIGURE 13

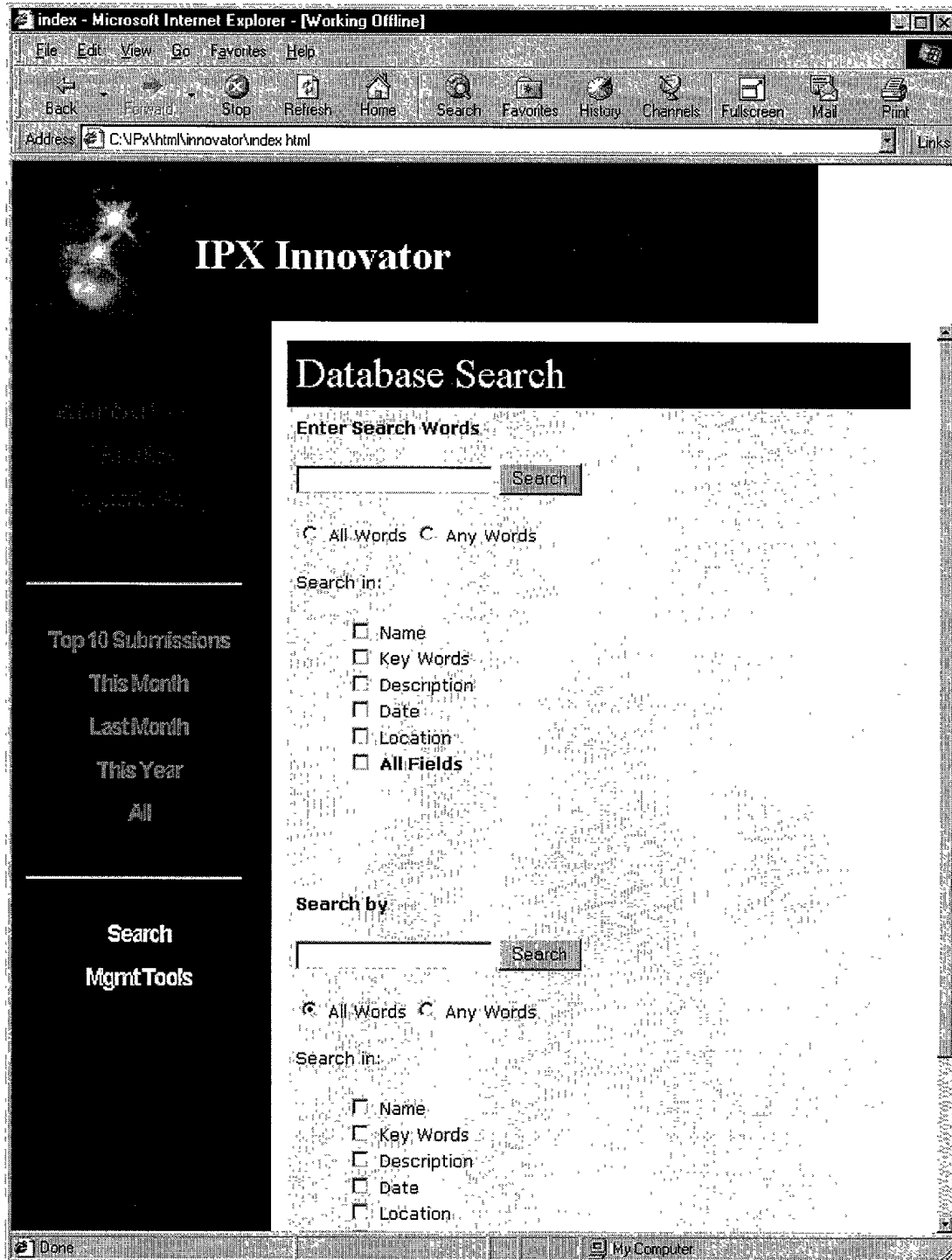


FIGURE 14a



MindMatters

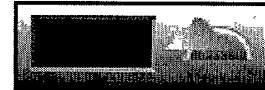
# John's Innovator Page

★★ MEMBER EVALUATION BOARD

★ DISTINGUISHED PATENT FELLOW 1998

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[Choose a new java plugin!!](#) »



## Innovation Database Search

Key Word(s)

Search for:

Start Search

Reset

### Search Parameters

Results

MUST NOT contain



the phrase



Results

SHOULD contain



the phrase



Start Search

Reset

FIGURE 146

000001-00000000

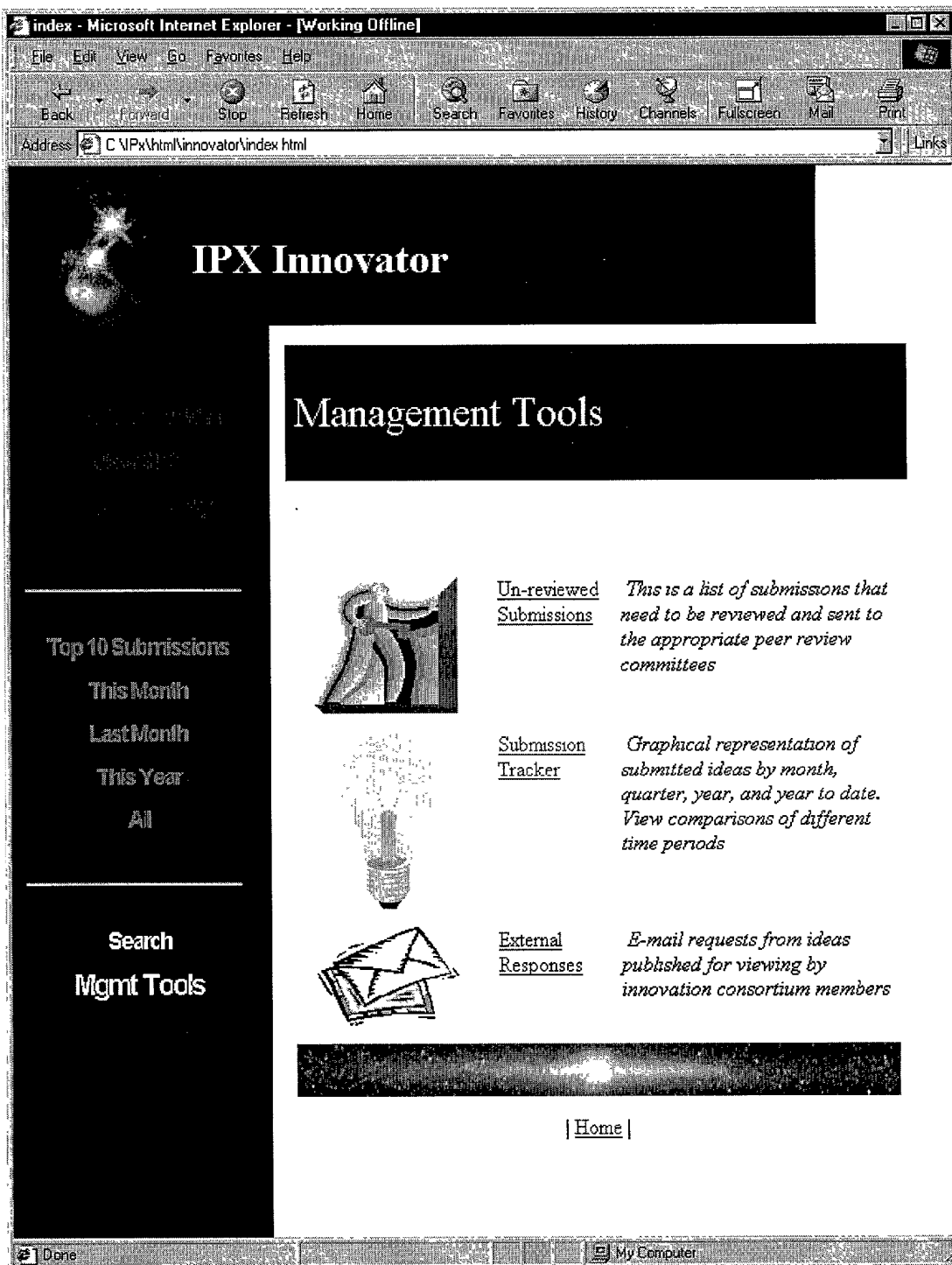


FIGURE 15a

[Home Page](#) • [Edit](#) • [Help](#)

951300917

Active innovations

Budgeted innovations

Closed innovations

Rejected innovations

263

55

489

1349

## Departments

[edit](#) [-](#) [x](#)

### Seattle, WA

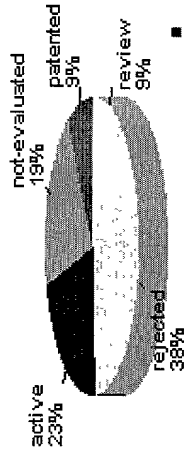
[Marketing](#) [Sales](#) [WSA](#) [International](#) [Finance](#)  
[Business Development](#) [Patent](#) [Corporate](#) [More](#)

### Pittsburgh, PA

[Sales](#) [International](#) [Finance](#) [Patent](#) [Corporate](#)  
[Counsel](#) [Software Development](#) [Technical Support](#)  
[Customer Service](#) [Accounting](#) [More](#)

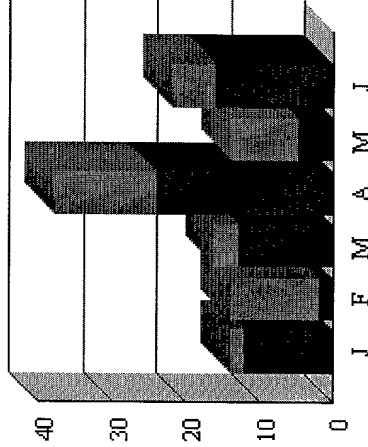
### London, England

[International](#) [Finance](#) [Business Development](#)  
[Patent](#) [Corporate Counsel](#) [Software Development](#)  
[Technical Support](#) [Customer Service](#)  
[Accounting](#) [More](#)



## Corporate Performance

[Chart](#) [News](#) [Performance](#) [Details](#) [SEC](#) [Research](#) [More...](#)



## Title

## Authors ? Rank

1. [Neural Network Optical Driver](#) [Gabrick](#) [92%](#)
2. [Software System For AI Internet Searching](#) [Orlowski](#) [82%](#)
3. [HTML Authoring Tools](#) [N.A.](#) [79%](#)
4. [NE126 Product Improvements](#) [N.A.](#) [65%](#)
5. [Robotic Force Feedback Sensor](#) [Elston](#) [55%](#)
6. [Software System For AI Internet Searching](#) [Orlowski](#) [45%](#)
7. [Neural Network Optical Driver](#) [Smith](#) [38%](#)
8. [HTML Authoring Tools](#) [N.A.](#) [36%](#)
9. [Robotic Force Feedback Sensor](#) [Elston](#) [31%](#)

[edit](#) [-](#) [x](#)



# Status

- ★ Member Evaluation Board 2000
- ★ Distinguished Patent Fellow 1998
- ★ Peer Review Board 1999

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## Valuation Points

[Chart](#) [Total](#) [Month](#) [Week](#) [Day](#) [Department](#) [Location](#)

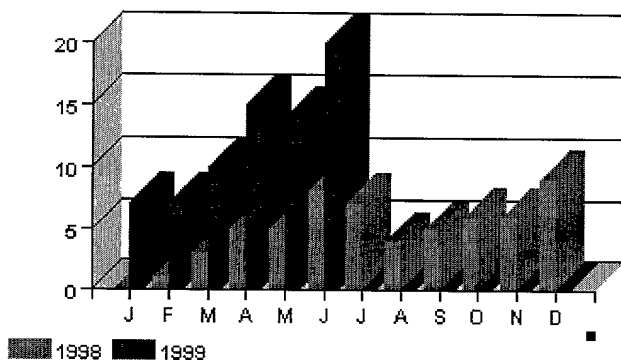
Criteria	Result	Company	%	Rank	Pts
1. Personal Home Page Hits	103	125,119	7.1%	Top 10	52
2. File Cabinet Hits	56	204,532	7.0%	Top 50	5
3. Collaboration Agent Hits	12	23,221	7.0%	Top 50	12
4. Citations	5	3,206	7.2%	Top 10	60
5. Submissions	20	8,018	7.3%	Top 25	20
6. Analysis Performed	25	36,112	7.1%	Top 25	50
7. NDA Citations	1	58	1.7%	Top 10	50
8. Downloads	6	7,863	0.1%		12
9. Internet Publications	0	98	0.0%		0
10. Licenses	1	12	3.3%	Top 10	500
11. Accepted Innovations	8	400	2.0%	Top 50	80
12. Patents	2	52	3.8%	#1	2000
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>2841</b>

## Performance

### Portfolio Performance

[edit](#) [X](#)

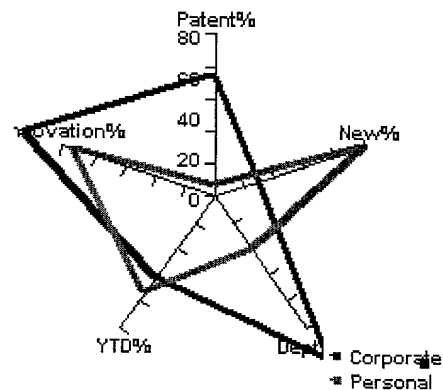
[Chart](#) [News](#) [Performance](#) [Details](#) [SEC](#) [Research](#) [More...](#)



### Company Goals

[edit](#) [X](#)

[Chart](#) [News](#) [Performance](#) [Details](#) [SEC](#)  
[Research](#) [More...](#)



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FIGURE 15c

# Innovator Executive Overview

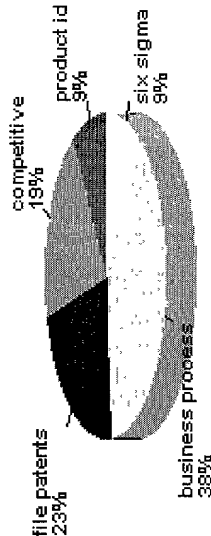
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  - Review
- Innovation Database
- Announcement
- Innovator Configuration

## Corporate Performance

Today Week Month Quarter Year More...



## Innovation Category

New Products  
Patents  
Invention Disclosures  
Active Projects  
R&D Headcount

## YTD Total

21  
103  
55  
61  
84

## Historical Performance

Metric

	#	%V	5 Yr.	Avg.
Total Patents Awarded	18	30		23
Total Patents Filed	43	53		34
Total Patents Pending	64	24		44
Total Invention Disclosures	76	55		43
Total Licensing Revenues (\$MM)	10.5	33		14
Total Innovation Submissions	377	134		78
New Trade Secrets Classified	245	128		65
New Products Introduced	12	10.7		14.6
Number of Approved New Projects	15	8.3		9.2
Total Active New Products	43	7.5		6.8
% Sales Attributed New Products, Last 3 Years	28	38		23
% Increase R&D	12%	12		7.6
% Resources/Investment Dedicated to New Products	35%	21		12.3
Avg. Development Cost per Project/Product (\$M)	234	(7.4)		3.4
R&D Growth/Earnings Growth	1.15	15		8.6
Avg. Commercialization Speed (Months)	18	14.9		5.6

Overview Patents New Products Invention Disc. Active Projects R&D Rejected (c) dipu

## Corporate Performance

Today Week Month Quarter Year More...

## Divisions

Medical Systems  
Industrial Systems  
Plastics  
Capital  
Information Services

Patents	New Products	Invention Disclosures	Active Projects	R&D Headcount
21	3	38	8	504
103	4	156	24	5500
55	1	54	3	128
61	45	5	4	230
84	1	15	6	300



Figure 158



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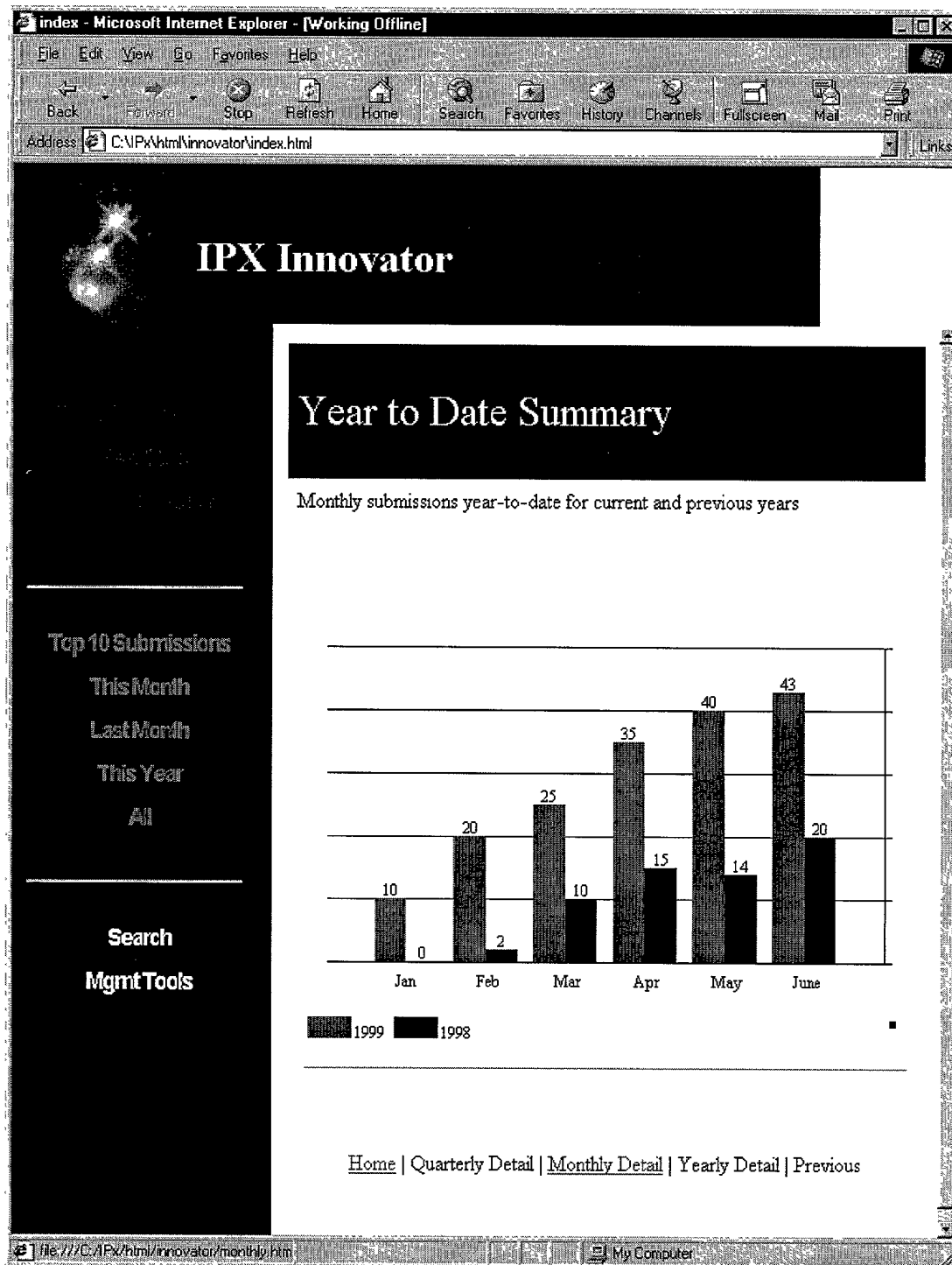
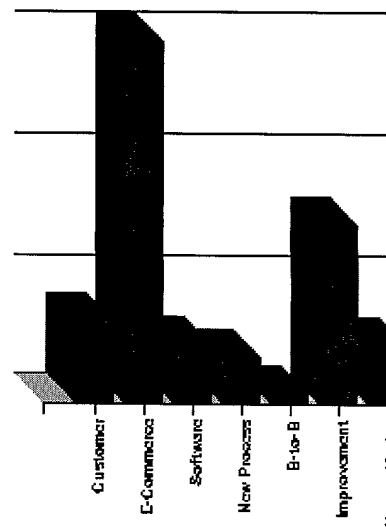
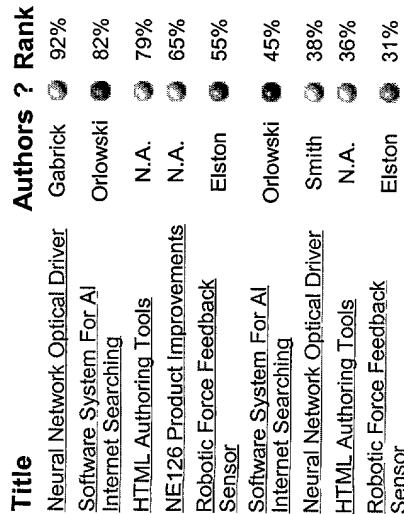
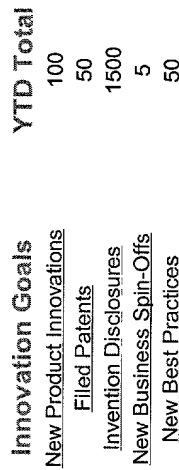
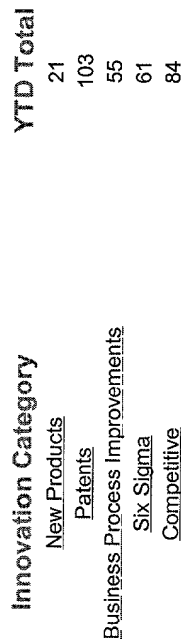
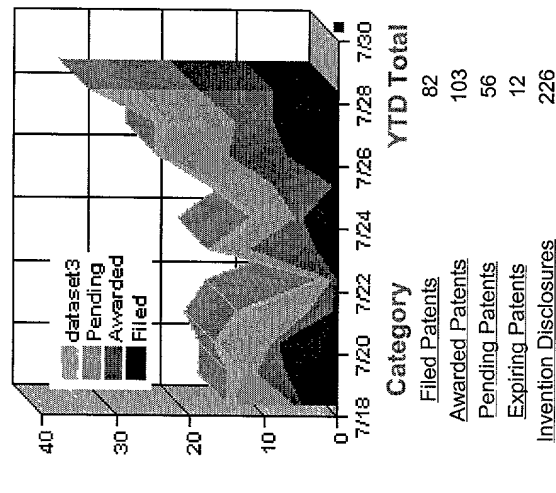


FIGURE 16a

**Mind Matters**

**edit**  **edit**



## Budgeted Innovations

55

**Closed Innovations**

489

## Rejected Innovations

1349

## Departments

**Seattle, WA**

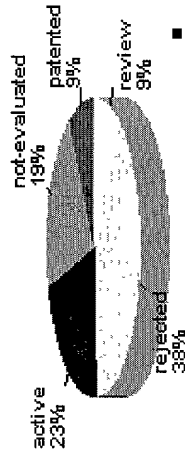
Marketing Sales WSA International Finance  
Business Development Patent Corporate More

**Pittsburgh, PA**

[Sales](#) [International](#) [Finance](#) [Patent](#) [Corporate Counsel](#) [Software Development](#) [Technical Support](#) [Customer Service](#) [Accounting](#) [More](#)

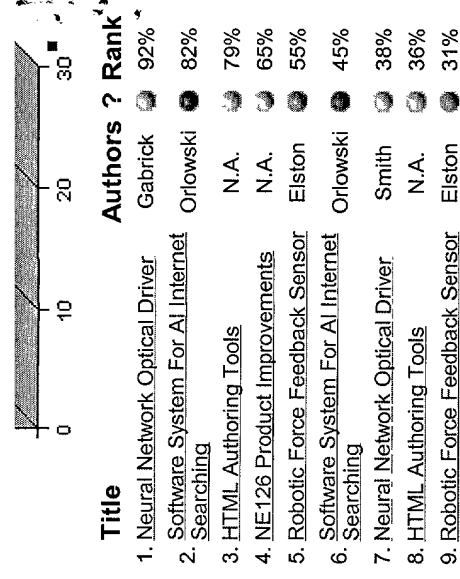
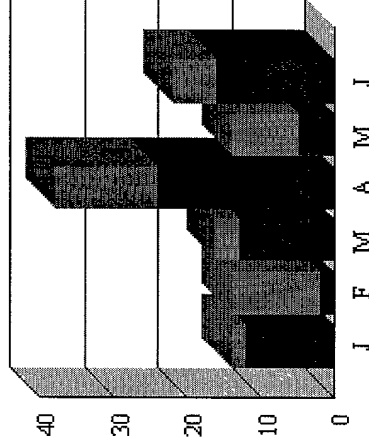
**London, England**

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## Corporate Performance

**Chart** [News](#) [Performance](#) [Details](#) [SEC Research](#) [More...](#)



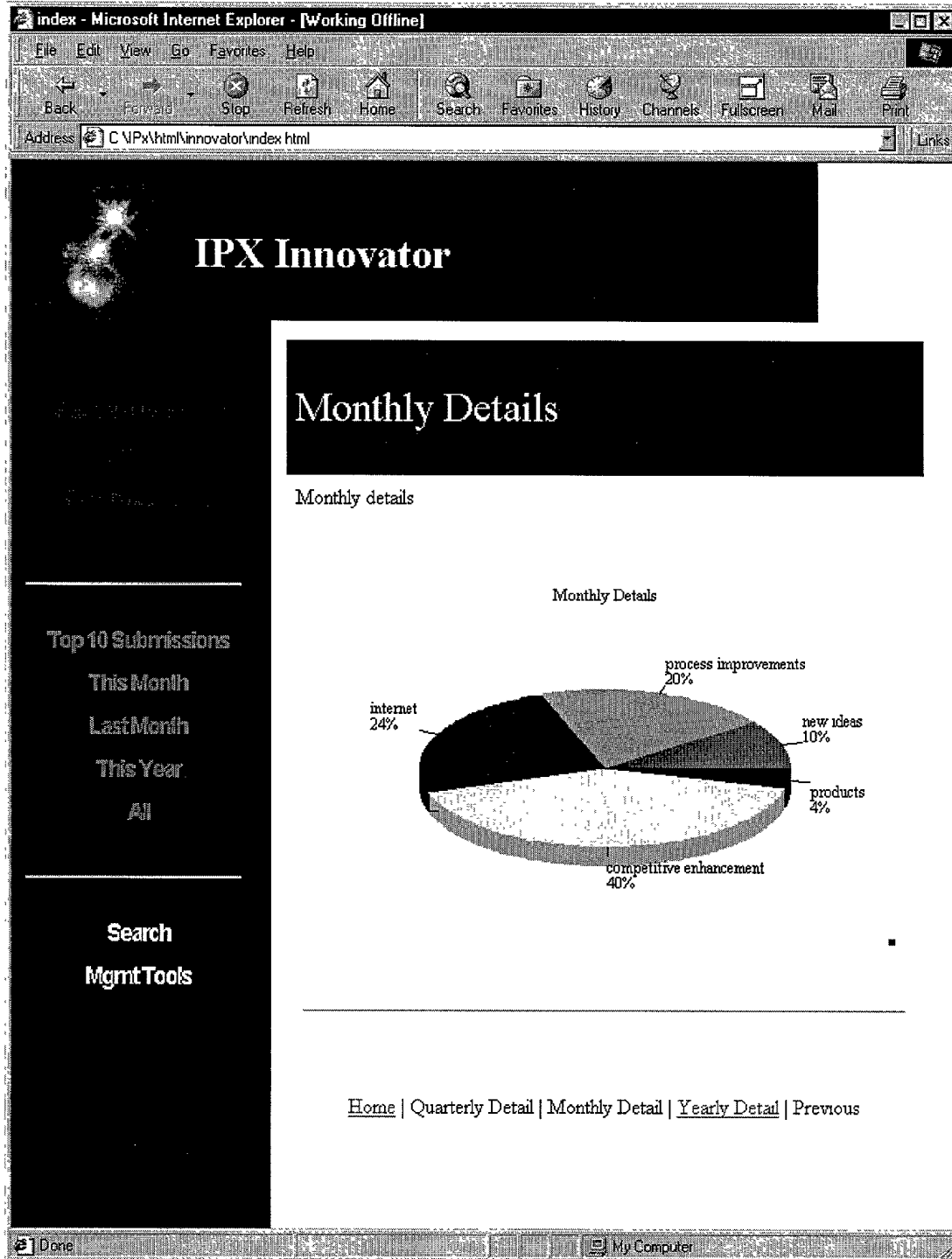
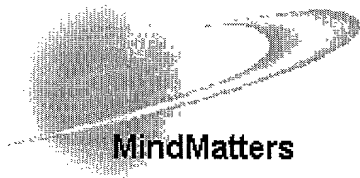


Figure 17a



# Innovator Management

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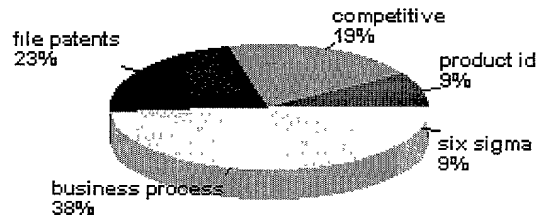
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## Submission Overview

[edit](#) [-](#) [x](#)

[By Action](#) [Status](#) [IP Type](#) [Division](#) [Rank](#) [More...](#)



Innovation Goals	Today	YTD Total
New Product Innovations	1	100
Filed Patents	1	50
Invention Disclosures	5	1500
New Business Spin-Offs	0	5
New Best Practices	2	50

## Updates

April 20, 6:22PM EST

- [PTO Updates MPEP](#)
- [Urgent Search Results](#)
- [5 New Innovation Disclosures](#)
- [PK107 Review Results](#)



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[Database Search](#)

[Active](#) [In Review](#) [Patents](#) [Trade Secrets](#) [Trademarks](#) [Copyrights](#) [Licenses](#) [Non-Active](#) [Rejected](#) [\(x\) display](#)

FIGURE 176

**EL609827121US**  
**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): John J. Gabrick  
Cassius A. Elston, Jr.

Examiner:

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filing Date:

Attorney Docket No.: MINMAT.P03

Title of Invention: System for Automating and Managing an Enterprise IP Environment

Seattle, Washington 98109  
November 3, 2000

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

This declaration is for an original application.

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first, and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

System for Automating and Managing an Enterprise IP Environment

the specification of which is filed herewith by United States Post Office Express Mail #EL609827121US.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above; and I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of the application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(a).

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

PATRICK MICHAEL DWYER, Reg No. 32,411

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

DIRECT ALL TELEPHONE CALLS TO:

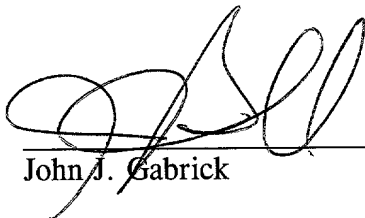
Patrick M. Dwyer  
MindMatters Technologies, Inc.  
c/o 1818 Westlake Avenue N, Suite 114  
Seattle, WA 98101

Patrick Michael Dwyer  
(206) 343-7074

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC § 120 of the application listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 USC § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the filing date of this application.

Provisional Application No. 60/163,877 filed 11/05/1999, and  
Provisional Application No. 60/165,140 filed 11/12/1999.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

  
John J. Gabrick

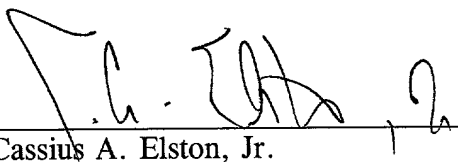
Date 10-18-2000

Residence and mailing address:

824 White Oak Circle  
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Citizenship:

USA

  
Cassius A. Elston, Jr.

Date 10-18-2000

Residence and mailing address:

2737 226th Avenue NE  
Redmond, WA 98053

Citizenship:

USA